

# At Last, Someone Saw Jennifer's Beauty

By Judy Touchton

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — For most of her short life, seven-year-old Jennifer (not her real name) has been alone — at least legally. Her parents, according to law, are Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center, a Southern-Baptist-owned and operated ministry to unwed mothers and couples seeking adoptive children.

She spent her first 18 months of life in a nursery for handicapped children after she was born to a young woman at Sellers. But unlike most of the children at Sellers, she was never placed for adoption. She had little if any future; no hope for a "normal" childhood; by some predictions, no hope for life at all.

A rare disease, akin to Mongoloidism, struck Jennifer with all-out fury, causing near blindness, deafness, curvature of the spine, deformities, facial disfigurement, retardation.

Though constantly threatened with institutionalization, she had physical care, necessities. But not the love of a family. And though it saddened all who heard of Jennifer, no one expected much change.

But now, through what could be termed a modern miracle of fate, circumstance and answered prayer, Jennifer has a family.

When Jennifer was about 18 months old, a young woman searching for direction to her life, and her mother, went one day to a nursery for handicapped children, just to help out.

"We were told most of the children in the handicapped part of the center were waiting placement in an institution — or waiting to die," said the daughter. "All had family except one — Jennifer."

"She was lying in the bed, totally unaware of events, with a deadpan smile the first time I saw her. The nurse said she was like a newborn baby; she didn't even crawl."

"After I fed her and put her back in the bed, she pulled up by the side of the crib, laid her head over on me and smiled. That smile melted me. You could see what love could do... even for a short time."

Daughter and mother started home, finished with their day of volunteering. After about two blocks, they stopped on the side of the road and cried.

The daughter wanted to bring Jennifer home for a weekend. "Mother insisted they were not going to let a single, 17-year-old girl bring a child home. But in my persistence, my youthfulness, my ignorance, I just knew the Lord had a hand in it."

"Jennifer was meant to come to this house... to be a part of this family. There were just too many coincidences," the daughter, now married, said.

Jennifer is not pretty. She has a protruding forehead, her head is oversized. Her arms and legs are frail, too weak to support her body. She stands, with help, about knee-high to adults. Her head sometimes bobbles side to side. Yet Jennifer is beautiful, a tiny person forced into a misshapen body.

She sits in her little rocker in the family room, in her red jumper with her hair pinned back with matching red barrettes, as much a part of the warm Christian family as the three natural children; two adult daughters and a teen-age son.

But she was not always so accepted. When mother and daughter first brought Jennifer

home, the father was unmoved. "I wasn't going to get hooked up with any little girl. I didn't want to get attached," said the father. "But I did."

By the second time the family took Jennifer back to the nursery, "It was like leaving a member of our flesh and blood."

They began talking of adoption, but a doctor discouraged them. "He painted the blackest picture he could... almost chastized us for even considering adoption," Daddy says.

But another doctor only asked: "Do you love her now? Is she repulsive to you now? Terrible things could happen, but if you love her..."

Five years ago, May 1974, the family brought her home... as a foster child. In those five years, each family member found Jennifer filled a need, strengthened their faith.

But why adoption? Why legally bind themselves?

"I want her to have my name," the father sighs, tears welling in both eyes. "It's just that little 'f'ference that keeps her from being ours completely."

Besides, Jennifer's family has a dream, a

vision of sorts, that she will be healed.

"They don't have any doubt," says Mary Dan Kuhnle, director of Sellers. She and others on Sellers' staff rejoice at the probable adoption of Jennifer — marking success in real human lives and symbolizing the value of their ministry.

Jennifer's father, officially around May 1979, explains, "Our first prayer was for the Lord to let her know we love her. And he has. He has blessed and allowed her to see, walk (until a fall) and function close to a normal child."

"Her special needs make her a special person. But her special needs are no more than many people have... her needs are just visible. Besides, God will heal those handicaps one day."

"Should the Lord see fit to take Jennifer tomorrow, it would not dampen our faith... because we know the healing has taken place already — in her spirit."

(Judy Touchton is photo feature editor at the Home Mission Board.)

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### Limitations Set

## Visa Problems Threaten In Western South America

By Jennifer Hall

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Visa limitations in Western South America are causing concern for missionaries and personnel of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

No missionaries have ever been denied entry into Western South America, but J. Bryan Brasington, board secretary for Western South America, expressed concern about it in his

March report to the board and urged prayer for granting of visas in Colombia and Peru.

In Colombia a meeting between evangelicals and Colombia's minister of foreign relations outlined what the government is considering for the future.

"Their plan now, though it is only verbal agreement, is to give one visa for every two visas for people who

leave the country," Brasington explained. "The ultimate goal is to limit the presence of foreigners in Colombia — especially those who are working in the area of religion."

Brasington said, however, that Colombia generally plans to extend religious freedom. He asked Baptists to pray that Colombian Baptists would move quickly toward filling leadership positions.

The Peruvian government ruled in January that no evangelical mission could increase its number of missionaries. "However, if a missionary family has to leave the country permanently (as in the case of retirement) that family can be replaced with another," Brasington explained. "But no new visas will be granted for additional personnel. We need your prayers that this ruling will be changed to allow new families to serve in Peru."

Historically, Southern Baptists have weathered visa crisis in South

## Five Fabulous Sundays!!!

By Bryant Cummings, Director

Mississippi Sunday School Department

10,000 new Sunday School members enrolled during April! This bold, ambitious goal for the Sunday Schools of Mississippi sets a vision of growth and outreach excitement!

Mississippi's FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS during April will give Sunday School officers and teachers an opportunity to be a part of a statewide event that enrolls boys, girls, men and women in a special, over and above enlistment program.

The goal suggested for every Sunday School of every Mississippi church during the five Sundays in April is one new member, per Sunday School, per church. The state Sunday School Department will call all 76 Associations each Monday in April to determine the number of new members. The Baptist Record will carry a weekly report.

The FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS will help increase attendance, prepare and aid in revivals, heighten interest, put people to work, work towards high attendance Sunday, prepare hearts spiritually, enroll more people and create excitement.

Write or call the Mississippi Sunday School Department for additional information on FIVE FABULOUS SUNDAYS.

## Can't Stand Intolerance?

MINNEAPOLIS (RNS) — People of various religions are about equally intolerant, according to three political science researchers.

Among findings of the study by Piereson, John Sullivan and George Marcus, were that:

—People with more education are only slightly more tolerant than less-educated people.

—Men are no more tolerant than women.

—Liberals are very nearly as intolerant as conservatives.

—Young people are as intolerant as old people.

—Blacks and whites are about equally intolerant.

—People in the South are no more intolerant than people in any other section of the country.

Among reasons persons give for their intolerance toward a group are that they believe the group rejects personal liberties, is violent and dangerous, is too radical and has unacceptable goals, wants to subvert normal life, is anti-religious, has members perceived to be lazy and with low morals, or members who are sneaky and untrustworthy.

## WMU Elects Mrs. Dent President

By Anne McWilliams

Mississippi WMU moved to the delta for its annual meeting, March 19-21. Women at the convention at First Church, Greenville elected new officers, took part in a missions extravaganza, and heard missionary speakers representing four continents.

Mrs. Robert Smira of Jackson presided, completing her sixth year in office. Elected to succeed her as state president is Mrs. Bob Dent of Holly Springs. Mrs. Charles Tyler, the new vice-president from Collins, succeeds Mrs. E. M. Kee, Jr. of Woodville. Mrs. Bill Duncan of Long Beach and Mrs. G. W. Smith of Louisville were re-elected. Mrs. Duncan as recording secretary and Mrs. Smith as associate recording secretary. Marjean Patterson is the executive director.

"To All the World" was the convention theme.

Mrs. Christine Gregory, WMU president, SBC, in the final message on Wednesday morning, challenged her listeners to learn how to sacrifice.

She recalled being at the prayer breakfast in Washington, D. C. which led to plans for Bold Mission Thrust. She said that WMU does a lot for the world, but "how much more we could do if we were really willing to sacrifice."

She asked, "How many of you would be willing to leave your purses here just as they are — with all the credit cards, your car keys, your checkbooks?"

"We have become accustomed to affluence," she continued, "and we don't

want to lay it down. We have many cars and material things and we don't want to give them up."

Crowds of men, women, young people, and children surged into different sections of the church on Tuesday evening for "adventures in missionsland." A puppet troupe from First Church, Greenville, fascinated the

(Continued on page 3)



New officers elected by Mississippi WMU are Mrs. G. W. Smith, Louisville, associate recording secretary; Mrs. Bill Duncan, Long Beach, recording secretary; Mrs. Charles Tyler, Collins, vice-president; Mrs. Bob Dent, Holly Springs, president. At right is Marjean Patterson, executive director, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

## Funds Bring Relief To Flood-Stricken Baptists

By John J. Hurt

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (BP) — "It would have made any Southern Baptist proud and happy to see the relief on the faces of those pastors when they were told there were funds available to help their families."

That was the report of Joe E. Tarry, Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil, after he and Jose Alves Beittencourt, secretary for the Minas Gerais State Baptist Convention, visited areas damaged by what is being described as Brazil's worst flood in history.

Minas Gerais, north of Rio, is one of four states in south Brazil ravaged by floodwaters. Gov. Osanami Cr. lho said his state was made "ational tragedy" by the flood. Two states in north Brazil were also flooded.

Receding waters are permitting most of the people to return to their homes, some destroyed and some damaged. But some workers in industrial areas here lost factory wages and farmers have been deprived of crops in various stages of cultivation.

Fred L. Hawkins Jr., Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil and coordinator of Baptist relief efforts for south Brazil, said the flood affected possibly a third of the Baptist families.

"Some state conventions are taking pastors on as missionaries and paying

their salaries until the churches can again become self-sustaining," said Hawkins, a North Carolinian.

State convention budgets may face major problems, Hawkins said, because local churches suffering financial difficulties may be forced to withhold funds normally used for Brazil's own foreign mission work and other enterprises.

The SBC Foreign Mission Board allocation of \$50,000 in March for relief efforts has pushed the total of Southern Baptist help to more than \$285,000 — of which \$20,000 was designated for north Brazil. Hawkins explained the Brazil missionaries allocate these funds to Brazilian state conventions, which in turn funnel funds through pastors and church committees.

Months may elapse before all state conventions have anything approaching an accurate record of church damages. Telephone lines to remote areas are down, and travel is difficult at best. Landslides and water rushing down mountain gorges handicap highway travel.

Tarry, from New Mexico, said the convention office in Minas had information that 800 to 1,000 Baptist families or Baptist-related families were directly affected by the flood. Details continue to be sketchy about the

(Continued on page 2)

## Commission Maintains Church Fees Practical

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Nothing is more practical than to charge the churches using "Together We Build" for the costs incurred by the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission to administer the program, according to commission findings.

The findings were made public at the commission's annual meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, where commission members also approved a \$1,526,447 budget for 1979-80 and elected David C. (Bill) Bates chairman. Bates, a layman from Pineville, La., was previously vice chairman.

Projected Cooperative Program income for the commission's new budget is \$292,250, or 19.3 percent of the total. The remainder comes from the sale of materials for budget development and through fees charged to churches and institutions for major fund raising projects.

A motion to review those charges

was passed at the 1978 Southern Baptist Convention sessions in Atlanta. The motion, submitted by Indialantic, Fla., pastor John Green, requested the

Stewardship Commission "to consider developing an alternate method of financing the 'Together We Build' (Continued on page 2)

## Mississippi Stewardship Counterpart Disagrees

According to John Alexander, Mississippi Baptist Stewardship Department Director, and Earl Kelly, Convention Board executive secretary, nothing is more practical than NOT charging the churches for conducting "Church Building Fund Campaigns." The staff of the state Stewardship Department has helped over 60 churches in Mississippi in the last seven years raise over \$13 million and all it has cost the churches is printing and a complimentary banquet. There is no charge made by the state staff for consultant services in the campaign. The 60 churches have saved at least \$13 million in interest. Several other state conventions are now moving in the direction of providing this free service to their churches.

## "Grandma" Tucker Dies In Alaska

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (BP) — "Grandma" Minnie Tucker, who was about 107 when she was baptized, died March 6 at about the age of 120.

Mrs. Tucker, believed to be Alaska's oldest resident, was born at Rocky Point, an Eskimo community on the Seward Peninsula east of Nome. When she obtained her

Social Security card, she listed her birthdate as Aug. 12, 1866, which would have made her 113 at her death.

(Continued on page 2)



## Missions On The Parking Lot

These men, members of First Baptist Church, Purvis, stayed on the church parking lot, contributing about 350-man-hours to Mississippi missions. What they did is explained on page two. (Tim Nicholas photo)



# Simultaneous Revivals Spread Over Entire State

Here's a partial listing by association of Mississippi Baptist churches holding simultaneous revivals.

## Oktibbeha

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Center Grove	April 8-11	Lay Leaders	Bobby Parish
Friendship	April 11-14	Donald Berry	Arnold Davis
Longview	Apr. 29-Mar. 4	Benny Thompson	Benny Buckley
Meadowview	April 19-22	L. J. Brewer	L. J. Brewer
Morgan Chapel	April 8-11	Walter Frederick	Ed Deuschle
Starkville, 1st	April 15-22	Harold Tallant	Raymond Lloyd
Sturgis	April 15-20	Dale Patterson	Gene Gillis
Wake Forest	April 15-20	Joe Lynn Joyner	Andre Dobson

## Chicasaw

Churches	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Bethel	April 11-15	Bob Ramsay	David Norris
Carnation	April 8-11	Dwight Brown	Dwight Brown
Fellowship	April 11-14	Lamar Crocker	Harold Williams
First, Houka	April 2-8	Bruce Cappleman	Bruce Cappleman
First Houston	April 6-8	Youth, M-C	James Smith
First Okolona	April 1-6		Wilburn Matthews
Pleasant Ridge	April 1-4	Gowan Ellis	(Interim) Lamar Crocker

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Silver Springs	March 23-25	Lucius Allemon	Jim Thornhill
Fellowship	March 23-25	Wayne Dubose	Eddie Gandy
North McComb	April 8-13	Kelly Dampier	Joe Ratcliff
West McComb	April 8-13	Anis Shorosh	E. M. Fleming
Tangipahoa	April 8-13	Dennis Dunn	W. C. Burns
First, Summit	April 8-13	Hardy Denham	Dennis Johnsey
Terry's Creek	April 15-20	W. C. Burns	John Hedgepeth
First, Magnolia	April 15-20	Farris Smith	Howard Brister
Navilla	April 8-13	Robert L. Hughes	H. P. Porter
Fernwood	April 15-20	David Millican	Roger Wilkins
E. Union	April 15-17	V. Daniel West	James Barrentine
Mount Zion	April 18-22	Dan Raley	R. G. Kirkland
Central	April 22-27	Odean Puckett	J. B. Fowler
First McComb	April 22-27	Huber Drumwright	David Millican
South McComb	April 22-27	Ray Grissett	Thomas Wicker
Locust Street	April 22-27	Rick Johnston	Jimmy McGee
East McComb	April 22-27	Troy Sumrall	Ray Pridgen
Friendship	April 22-27	Lester Hawkins	David Berryhill
Immanuel	April 27-29	Mike Sutton	

## Clay

Churches	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
West End	April 8-15	Roy McHenry	Ray Walters
West Point	April 8-15		

## Tallahatchie

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Paul	April 4-8	Ed Ramsey	Joe Young
St. John	April 16-20	James Adams	James Rainey

## Holmes-Leflore

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Calvary	April 1-8		Rayford Duck
Greenwood, First	April 1-8		Curtis Burge
Immanuel	April 1-8		Horace Thomas
Itta Bena	April 1-8		Wilbur Webb
Morgan City	April 1-8		Glenn Simmon
Mt. Vernon	April 1-8		L. E. Moon
North Greenwood	April 1-8		Walter Yeldell
Phillipston	April 1-8		Gerald Brigan
Schlater	April 1-8		

## Holmes

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Antioch	April 8-15		C. A. Dickerson
Beulah	April 8-15		William Watson
Cruger	April 8-15		Tom McLaughlin
Durant, First	April 8-15		Ed McDaniel
Horseshoe	April 8-15		James Carr
Lexington First	April 8-15		
Oak Grove	April 8-15		James Burrell
West	April 8-15		Carey E. Cox

## Lowndes

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Antioch	April 8-13	Jim Futral	Larry Hill
Calvary	April 1-6	Jerry Vardaman	Jerry Stevens
East End	April 8-13	David Skinner	W. M. Daves
Fairview	April 1-6	Darrow Smith	Gene Henderson
Friendship	April 8-14	Sonny Adkins	Ray Foster
Mt. Vernon	April 8-11	Gene Henderson	Charles Bagwell
Mt. Zion	April 1-6	Lee Hudson	Ray Hill

## Visa Problems Threaten South America Work

(Continued from Page 1)

America, Brasington said. "But right now things are tightening up... this is a call to prayer. We're confident that God will lead in this matter and open the right doors on his schedule. Pray that we will have faith to follow God's leadership."

Also, board members were asked to pray for hundreds of Bolivians made homeless by heavy flooding. The flood which devastated Brazil also spread to its neighbor to the west in the Santa Cruz and Beni regions. The board approved a \$10,000 allocation for hunger relief in Bolivia.

In the same meeting, Brasington reported several items of a positive note. In Colombia, the Catholic marriage ceremony has carried weight over civil and other ceremonies. Changes are taking place which would give more authority to the civil ceremony, said Brasington. "And at the same time this opens up the possibility of the approval of a law which would make any kind of evangelical marriage

ceremony equally legal along with those of the Catholic marriages," he said.

He also noted that in Peru there's a movement which would provide for the complete separation of church and state.

Brasington outlined what he calls a "contagious" evangelism project begun by the Venezuelan Baptist Convention. The three-year program of city-to-city marches has enlisted about 100 people divided into two-person teams to visit homes and share testimonies.

When someone accepts Christ, he receives discipleship training from the team, and generally tells his testimony to his family. In a short time, a nucleus for a Bible study develops. Soon the new Christian is asked to join the team and the project moves to another area with a new team — two mature Christians and a new believer. *J. J. Jenkins, Hall is a Foreign Mission Board Staff writer.*

## Missions On The Parking Lot

Last year Paul Harrell, Brotherhood Department director for Mississippi Baptists, talked with Thomas Hall, now former pastor of First Baptist church, Purvis, about a missions project volunteers could stay at home and do in their spare time.

The project involved building platforms for tents to be used in the boys' camping program at Central Hills Baptist Retreat at Kosciusko.

Hall thought he had the men for the job and the church followed through with the volunteers.

In only about two weeks, the men built 66 two-piece platforms for the tents, in about 350-man-hours. The operation was supervised by 82-year-old Simmie Miller. He is shown in the picture on page one, in the foreground between two white-shirted men. To his

left is Rusty Griffin, Brotherhood consultant, who will direct the camping program at Central Hills. To Miller's right is Thomas Hall, former pastor of FBC, Purvis.

In the picture, clockwise from the top left, are Lavelle Miller, Bill Purvis, G. T. Purvis, Wesley Owens, Thomas Hall, Simmie Miller, Rusty Griffin, Jason Lee. Volunteers not pictured include Ezell Fowler, Billy Jackson, Jude Lambert, and Brad Hodges who is minister of music at the church.

Griffin estimated cost of materials for the platforms was \$600 each, with treated lumber. Commercially produced, he said, cost would have been just over \$1,000 each.

Other projects related to Central Hills camping development are still open to volunteers. Griffin said still needed was someone with a large flatbed truck to haul the platforms to Central Hills. Also, he said, volunteers were needed to build a barn, fences, develop trails, and clear brush.

## Commission Maintains

(Continued from Page 1)

program so that this new program may be available to all cooperating churches without extraordinary fees above basic costs."

"Together We Build" is a fund raising technique, generally used for building, that secures money and pledges before a project is begun, thereby saving interest charges. The Stewardship Commission used the program to raise over \$60 million in the past year and over \$100 million since the program began in 1969.

Green contends that services of the Stewardship Commission and other SBC agencies should be without cost to cooperating Southern Baptist Churches.

The SBC Executive Committee issued a statement at its February meeting, which will recommend for adoption at the 1979 annual meeting in Houston, that interprets current practices concerning charges for services rendered by SBC agencies.

The statement says that there have been some exceptions to the general rule of support of agencies through Cooperative Program funds, designated gifts, income from endowment or trust and through compensation for goods and services.

Those exceptions have been guided by principles, which according to the statement, allow agencies receiving Cooperative Program funds to "charge the church for the recovery of reasonable costs," when the agency provides "service or materials for fund-raising for the individual church."

The Stewardship Commission, which gave "careful study" to the mo-

tion for alternate financing, employs 10 consultants who work exclusively with "Together We Build."

Its response to the convention in Houston will say its charges to churches are on a cost recovery basis; the cost for fund raising with "Together We Build" is less than with other fund raising approaches; and the fund raising consultants in "Together We Build" have a responsibility to all the programs of the churches.

"Therefore we report that there is not a more practical funding source available," the report concludes.

## "Grandma"

(Continued from Page 1)

But her daughter, Edna Wilder of Fairbanks, who says no accurate records of her mother's birth exist, believes she was about seven years older than that.

Mrs. Tucker, who married Arthur S. Tucker of Bluff, Alaska, in 1910 and was widowed in 1942, made a public profession of faith under the ministry of John and Lillian Isaacs at about the age of 100 at Friendship Baptist Mission in Fairbanks. She was baptized seven years later.

Mrs. Wilder says her mother remembered hearing as a child that the United States had purchased Alaska from Russia, but that she did not see a white man until she was about 10.

"She was scared of him," Mrs. Wilder said.

## Flood-Stricken

(Continued from Page 1)

four or five Baptists reported dead. But Tarry fixed the momentary loss to Baptist families in Minas at \$340,000.

(Hurt, editor emeritus of the BAPTIST STANDARD, the Texas Baptist newspaper, is on special assignment to cover relief efforts and devastation in Brazil.)

## Multi-Purpose Facility Built For One-Third Ordinary Cost

By Tim Nicholas

About 50 persons attended a recent church building conference that focused on the meeting place. The place was the newly constructed facility of First Baptist Church, Natchez.

The meeting was hosted by Odean Puckett, pastor, and Dennis Conniff, church architecture consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, who advised the church during its building program.

First Baptist, Natchez is a showpiece for the still new concept of a multi-purpose church building. The entire church was designed for a multiplicity of uses.

The sanctuary doubles as a family

life center, but without the sacrifice of beauty. Interlocking padded chairs even look like pews and the podium pipe organ choir loft stand above and out of the way of potential Saturday skaters.

The 650 chairs set up for worship each week can be put away by two teenagers in two hours. (The floor would hold 1,200 chairs.) The floor is made for basketball, volleyball, tennis, skating, or any other gymnastic program. Basketball goals are stored in closets.

Wings on each side of the sanctuary serve overflow and can be closed off for classrooms. One side can be a small dining room, leading directly off

the kitchen.

The church members believe they got their money's worth. Holding a Church Building Fund Campaign, led by John Alexander of the Convention board's Stewardship Department, the church pledged \$658,000. They borrowed another \$1.1 million for a total outlay of \$1.6 million.

The building gives the church worship space for 1,200, fellowship space for 750, a full family life center, and adequate educational space. Contractors estimated that if the church had built individual buildings instead of multi-purpose space, the cost would have been \$3.5 million.

Conniff, who designed the floor plan for the church, called it "the church of the 21st Century." He said that this was the most ornate of its type. He estimated that perhaps 50 other Southern Baptist Churches are going into multi-purpose facilities.

Horn Lake Baptist Church will open a similar facility mid year, according to Conniff.

Built on 48 acres of land, the church only has one step coming in. They saved 15 percent of building costs by placing the hallway outside. It's a covered porch, running behind the building. Lined parking spaces number 253. However, the first service at the church March 11, pulled in 400 cars. They also had over 1,000 in worship and 537 in Sunday School that day.

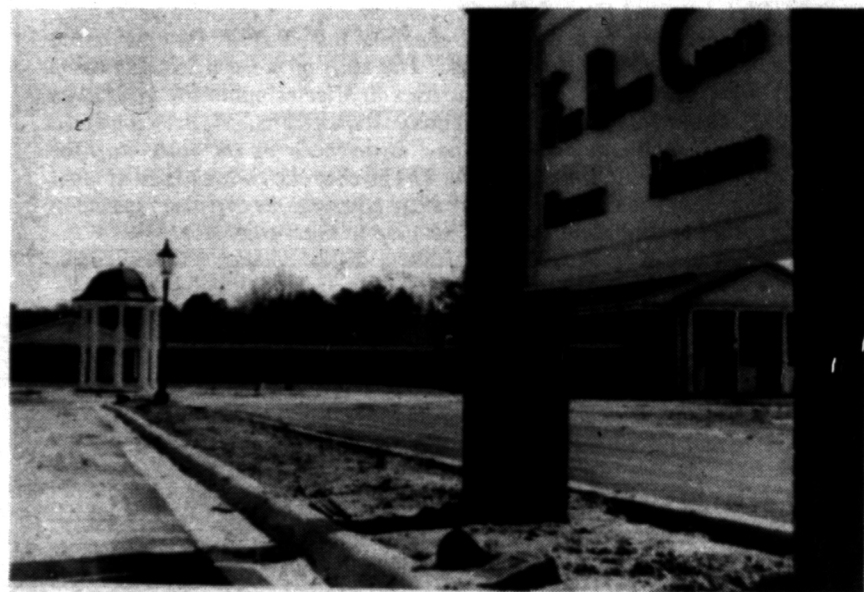
When the building committee went to Conniff for advice, he suggested they go to Sharpstown Baptist Church in Houston, Tex., to see the possibilities of a multi-purpose building. The committee liked it and began to pursue the idea.

The church felt it had to build. The old church downtown had no off street parking, no adequate Sunday School space, no large fellowship space, and no adjacent space was available for purchase.

"The thing most of us were scared of," said Pastor Puckett, "was that we would rob Peter to pay Paul," he said referring to the possibility that other giving would decline during a major building program. "That didn't happen," he said.

So far the Salvation Army in New York has asked for information on the church and 22 state conventions are interested in what the church has done, according to Conniff. Warren McCleskey was the architect. Beryl Smith was interior designer.

Dedication services are set for April 29.



Above, view from the front of the church. Below, the sanctuary with a basketball goal in foreground (which is put away during worship services).



## GOOD NEWS



mississippi

SIMULTANEOUS REVIVALS April 1979

Jerry Clower, Mississippi Storyteller says:

"Us folks in Mississippi are gonna see something that has never happened before. In April the white Southern Baptist churches and the black National Baptist churches are gonna have simultaneous revivals to tell everybody in Mississippi about Jesus Christ. So if you go to a white Baptist church, or a black Baptist church, you get all that Good News at one time, and if you ain't going to any Baptist church, you go in April and find out what's good. Take it from old Jerry and learn how great it is to be a Christian."

Good News Mississippi is a joint campaign of black and white Baptist churches to present the gospel message of Jesus Christ to the people of Mississippi.

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FOR SALE: Two church buses. 1961 International, 60 passenger, V8 engine, 4 speed transmission. 1964 Ford, 66 passenger, V8 engine, 5 speed transmission. Both in good condition. Call Mike All-day, (601) 773-7963, Louisville, Mississippi.

NEEDED: Assistant housemother at Sellers Baptist Home. Looking for mature Christian woman for live-in position. Requires relationship and supervisory skills, household management experience, good health, good driving record. Send resume to Director, Sellers Baptist Home, 2010 Peniston Street, New Orleans, LA 70115. Position available June 1, 1979.



# WMU Convention...

(Continued from page 1)

children with a humorous rendition of what you have to do to get to be a missionary. Acteons from First Church, Greenville, presented a missionary drama, "A Simple Trust." In the sanctuary, a Bold Mission film was shown.

In the gym, missionaries and other honored guests signed autographs, answered questions, and showed costumes and curios from their countries. The refreshment area was a popular place. Cut flowers and potted geraniums decorated it, and practically every room of the church, even the restrooms.

**Africa**  
Missionary-speakers from Africa were Charles and Dianne Deevers, Larry and Cheryl Cox, Ivory Coast; Emogene Harris, Nigeria; and Danny Stampley, Ghana.

Dianne Deevers told of the joy she had experienced in witnessing to hospital patients in the Ivory Coast — as her interpreter said, a joy "like having a light turned on in my heart." She told about talking to prisoners chained to their beds, a roomful of men who had never once heard the name of Jesus.

Emogene Harris said, "In Nigeria there are people everywhere — lorries passing, motorbikes, cars, bicycles. One day when I was in line to buy gas for my stove, a boy on a bike came flying toward me. Just as he came even with me he fell and knocked me down. I could have landed in the deep gully, or in a big pile of garbage, or in the path of the traffic, but God had placed a sandpile on the other side of the ditch and I landed right in the middle of the sandpile! The next day I couldn't even find it."

Miss Harris continued, "Before I could share with these people, I had to have a deep experience with the Lord myself, and He has been doing a big work in me." She said she went through her house and dedicated each room, each piece of furniture to God, to be used for His glory. She spent extra time in her guest room, praying that God might bless those who might come there to visit.

Then one day she felt urged to invite 30 people to her home for Sunday lunch, after church. Friday and Saturday she would be in meetings. Yet stew and rice would have to be prepared, plus extras, like ground nuts and drinks. She didn't know when she could prepare the meal, but the Lord helped. Her next door neighbor, Carolina, who cooks at night and sells food in the market during the daytime, assisted in cooking the meal on Saturday night. "And we had a day of wonderful Christian fellowship."

**North America**  
Gaynor Yancey, home missionary, recounted how she got to her part of the world — Philadelphia, Penn. "I always thought I wanted to be a missionary to Nigeria," she said, "because I heard people stress foreign missions more. I grew up in Philadelphia and in Texas, and studied at Southwestern Seminary."

"Then as a teacher I moved to Philadelphia and did volunteer work in the city in Christian social ministries. I saw the need for this work so I wrote the Home Mission Board and they appointed me to Philadelphia, the same place where I had been doing volunteer work."

**South America**  
Mrs. Virginia Oakley of Booneville, retired English teacher, retold her experiences in Brazil, as a volunteer on a year-long mission, teaching missionary kids in Recife.

She said, "God changed and enriched my life through this year of service."

He can do the same for you — but you have to make the first step."

**Asia**  
Gloria Thurman said thank you for the speedboat and the bicycles that have been sent to her and her husband for their use as missionaries in Bangladesh.

She described the country as a land of beauty, where many flowers grow. And she expressed her love and concern for the thousands and thousands who are hungry and have little food, who are sick and have few doctors. Sometimes, she said, operations are performed in rooms shielded from the public by only a flimsy curtain. Strangers or friends may lift the curtain and watch the operation if they like. One group asked her if she'd like to look, too, but she declined.

After painting vivid word pictures of the flood and famine, the poverty and disease, Mrs. Thurman asked, "Would you go back?" But she continued, "These people are anxious to hear about God. Many will walk a long way to attend an evangelistic service. I decided to follow Jesus. He called me to Bangladesh. And I will go back."

**Meditations**  
Mrs. Delores Gilliland, WMU director, Northern Plains Convention, said, "In my WMU work I have felt I have to reach up to God and be in constant touch with Him. No matter where I am, in South Dakota or Mississippi or Russia, wherever I am, He says, 'Don't fear, I will be with you.'"

Mrs. Gilliland is author of a book, *Selected Women of the Scriptures of Stamina and Courage*. She referred to the chapter on Hannah, who prayed for a son and then gave him to God as she had promised: "Hannah would miss her little son Samuel when she left him at the temple, but she had promised, and God had honored his part of the covenant; she knew she must honor hers."

She added, "God loves you. If I am to be it's up to me. If you are to be, it's up to you."

**Music**  
Music for the convention was under direction of Mrs. Charlotte Odom, member of First Church, Jackson. Mrs. Cissa Richardson of Leland was pianist and Mrs. Alice Katherine Turner of Greenville was organist. Members of First, Greenville and First, Leland presented the special music for all sessions. Soloists included Andy Alexander and Mrs. Sunny Vest of Greenville; and James Richardson, pastor of First Church, Leland. The Adult Choir from Greenville sang on Monday evening, under direction of Kenneth Forbus, and the Ladies Handbells performed. On Wednesday morning a group of Chinese women sang. They were from the Chinese mission of First, Greenville.

A luncheon on Tuesday honored mothers and fathers of missionaries.

**Committees**  
The Nominations Committee included Mrs. Eleanor Burt, chairman; Mrs. Joel Ray, Mrs. O. G. James, Mrs. Maggie Haggard, Mrs. James Burns, Mrs. C. A. Sanders, Mrs. Calvin Crawford, Mrs. R. A. Cooper, Mrs. Robert Carr, Mrs. Ella Rose Jordan, and Mrs. P. C. Perkins.

Convention chairmen were: Anne Alexander, general chairman; Wanda Blackman, transportation; Ann Hutchinson, nursery; Frances Ranson, flowers; Jane Ireland, luncheon; Mary Sue Rogers, BYW banquet; Maudaline Pepper, hospitality; and Jane Buchanan, ushers.

James Heflin, pastor, brought greetings from the host church.



Mrs. Robert Smira of Jackson completed her sixth year as state WMU president. The state WMU Board presented to her an arrangement of dried flowers.



Christine Gregory, Danville, Va., president of WMU, SBC, talks with Emogene Harris, of Rankin County, missionary to Nigeria, at the missions extravaganza.



Danny Stampley, right, of Jackson, missionary to Ghana, wears a costume from that country.



Mrs. David Bowen, pictured with her husband, was at the WMU Convention in Greenville. It was the 43rd consecutive Mississippi WMU convention she had attended. Formerly of Cleveland, she and Mr. Bowen now live in Jackson.



A group of Chinese women from the Chinese Mission of First Church, Greenville, presented special music on Wednesday morning.



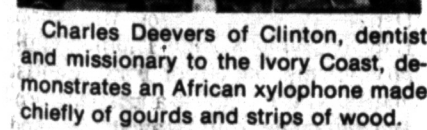
Children liked the puppet show about what you have to do to become a missionary. Puppeteers were from First, Greenville.



Dee Gilliland, WMU director, Northern Plains Convention, led the periods of meditation.



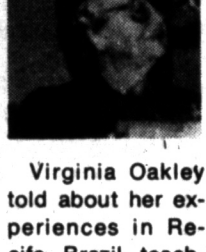
Charlotte Odom directed the music.



Charles Deevers of Clinton, dentist and missionary to the Ivory Coast, demonstrates an African xylophone made chiefly of gourds and strips of wood.



Gaynor Yancey talked about her work in Christian social ministries in Philadelphia, Pa.



Virginia Oakley told about her experiences in Recife, Brazil, teaching missionary kids.

## Georgia Extends Retirement Date Of Executive Secretary-Treasurer

ATLANTA (BP) — Trustee responsibility at Baptist schools, retirement policies and salary packages highlighted the spring meeting of the Georgia Baptist Convention's executive committee.

In a series of actions, the committee addressed itself to trustee autonomy and hiring of non-Baptists by Baptist schools, extended the retirement date of its executive secretary-treasurer, and raised salary of professional employees by 10 percent of base salary and 2 percent of housing allowance.

The committee also elected Edward R. Davie of Atlanta as the first fulltime black person on its administrative staff in the convention's 157-year history. Davie, named secretary of the program of work with National (Black) Baptists to succeed Earle F. Stirewalt, who retired February 1, has been an associate in the department for 17 years.

The Georgia committee approved a long statement spelling out the principle of trustee autonomy for Baptist schools and urged the school trustees

to "be sensitive to their stewardship to the convention and to Baptist objectives in establishing and supporting colleges."

The statement also acknowledged that trustee and college administrators "will, at times, be unable to employ Baptists with expertise to meet all the objectives of the colleges."

However, the statement asks that when Baptists are not available, Georgia Baptist schools employ "persons of character, ideals and personal

commitment consistent with the purpose of the college and the purpose of Baptists in supporting Christian education institutions."

The statement grew out of controversy at the 1977 and 1978 annual sessions of the Georgia Baptist Convention, revolving around motions that would have required colleges to hire Baptists only and that we have forced colleges to publish religious affiliations of all professors in the state Baptist paper, *The Christian Index*.

The Georgia executive committee brought to the 1978 convention a statement reaffirming trustee autonomy and citing legal and accreditation problems should religious affiliations of professors be secured and published.

The convention's request that the matter be studied again resulted in the statement adopted by the executive committee.

On the retirement question, the executive committee approved a motion allowing Executive Secretary-Treasurer Searcy S. Garrison to continue in office until the end of 1982, when he becomes 70 years old, if he so desires.

### APRIL, 1979

<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>ADULT START-A-CLASS SUNDAY, APRIL 8</b> POTENTIAL WORKER TRAINING CLASS Classes to train potential Sunday School workers should be started in April (or October). Resource: "Training Potential Sunday School Workers" (Baptist Book Store)
<b>Church Training</b>	<b>BEGIN A NEW CHURCH MEMBER TRAINING GROUP</b> If the church does not have an on-going New Church Member Training program begin such a group following the spring revival. Materials available on literature order. Consultation available from Church Training Department. See also <i>New Church Member Orientation Manual</i> , available from Baptist Book Store.
<b>Church Music</b>	<b>EVANGELISM CRUSADE</b> Choir members participate in witnessing, as well as singing in revival choir. <b>WITNESSING</b> A congregation "sermon in song" with a thrust on witnessing (may be used with spring revival emphasis). <b>HYMN OF THE MONTH</b> "Because He Lives" #448
<b>Brotherhood</b>	<b>MISSION PRAYER RETREAT</b> The emphasis for the 1979 retreat will be local mission service. Resource materials will be in April issue <i>World Missions Journal</i> , <i>Probe</i> , and <i>Crusader</i> . <b>MISSION AWARENESS HIKE</b> Lead Royal Ambassadors to conduct a Saturday morning hike around the community to locate mission ministry opportunities. Select one from among those discovered as a ministry project. <b>MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR ROYAL AMBASSADOR CAMPS, APRIL 1.</b>
<b>Woman's Missionary Union</b>	<b>CONDUCT CHURCHWIDE MISSIONS PRAYER RETREAT, APRIL 1-30</b> Resources to be found in April-June issue of <i>Dimension</i> magazine.
<b>Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries</b>	<b>NOMINATING COMMITTEE FULLY STAFFED AND TRAINED</b> Purpose: (1) to assure that the program leaders can be selected and have time to become involved in the selection and training of their leaders before the new year begins. (2) to plan the program for next year. Resource: Church Nominating Committee pamphlet from Materials Services Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; Church Nominating Committee Kit, Baptist Book Store. <b>LIFE COMMITMENT AND CHURCH VOCATION MONTH</b> Theme: Discovery: Your Tomorrow For Church Vocation pamphlets and other information, write state Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department.
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>OBSERVE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DAY, APRIL 15</b> Cooperative Program Day is a church mid-year emphasis to stress the importance and need for the Cooperative Program and to inform church members of what is happening through the Cooperative Program. Materials can be secured from state Stewardship Department. Enlist educational organizations to help promote this special emphasis. Carry articles and line art on the Cooperative Program in church publications. <b>CHRISTIAN FAMILY MONEY MANAGEMENT</b> Schedule an adult study of the Church Training undated resource unit "Christian Family Money Management". Conduct Money Management conferences for each age group in the church.
<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>GOOD NEWS MISSISSIPPI</b> "... the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

### BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

H	A	M	A	S	P	S	C	A	L	L
O	B	I	S	O	L	E	A	N	O	A
W	I	L	L	P	L	E	A	S	E	E
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L	E	A	R	U	S	S	A	R	K	N

"For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven" (Mal. 4:1).

### Space Still Open For Rec Week

NASHVILLE — Space is still available for Church Recreation Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, June 2-8.

Chester Swor, a Mississippian, will be the keynote speaker for the week which will be highlighting the department's 25th anniversary.

Swor is the man who addressed the 1948 Southern Baptist Convention in Memphis and urged that an emphasis be placed on recreation by the Sunday School Board in order to better meet the needs of youth and adults. The result was the formation of the church recreation department in 1954.

For reservations write: Reservations, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, North Carolina 28770.

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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Commentary For April . . .

## The Bible Book Series

The new Bible Book Series of Sunday School lessons have been in use for six months. Several churches have begun using the new series, and all reports thus far have been good.

I served in a brainstorming session that helped to determine some of the guidelines for the new series, and I am interested in:

A recent issue of the Baptist Record had a letter to the editor asking that consideration be given to a commentary on the Bible Book Series. This will be done on a get acquainted basis in April. J. Roy McComb, pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbia, teaches the new series to a class in his church, and the new literature is used throughout the First Church, Columbia, Sunday

School. Dr. McComb will prepare the commentary on the five lessons for April. This will give those churches which have not had occasion to examine the Bible Book Series an opportunity to look it over.

We would be interested in knowing how many churches are using the new series. The decision of the Baptist Record concerning publishing commen-

taries on it has been that when it becomes one of the two dominant series being used, we will begin. We also need to know which of the other two series has been replaced when that is the case. Perhaps we will change our minds and publish three if that seems to be indicated. At this point, however, we are still planning to have only two. Please let us hear.—DTM.

### Five Fabulous Sundays . . .

## Reaching for 10,000 Souls

Five Fabulous Sundays has an ambitious goal. It is to enroll 10,000 new members in the Sunday Schools of Mississippi Baptist churches during the five Sundays of April.

Impossible? Not at all.

That is an average of one new member per Sunday per church. There are churches in the state which would add 50 per cent to their Sunday School rolls if they added five. That might be tough. There are other churches, however, which would feel that the addition of only five would be a dismal condition. Their expected increases realistically might be nearer 50. Under whatever conditions, the 10,000 goal is ambitious but not out of

reach for the state.

What will be the result? We will see an increase in baptisms. While the Sunday School has education as its purpose rather than evangelism, it remains the best evangelistic agency we have because it brings lost people into the church fellowship where they will feel the warmth of Christian love and be exposed to preaching and Bible study.

How will we go about it? Bryant Cummings, director of the Sunday School Department for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has suggested the "open enrollment" approach. This is the plan adopted from the ACTION campaign that promotes

enrolling anyone, anytime, anyplace as long as he or she agrees to be enrolled.

Results will be reported week by week in the Baptist Record. We will have a running total of how well we are doing.

Five Fabulous Sundays deserves the support and the efforts of Mississippi Baptists. The 10,000 new enrollees will have to come from two sources, obviously. One source is those Baptist church members who are not enrolled in Sunday School. They are denying themselves and perhaps their children vital Bible study. They should not have to be contacted. They should show up on the first Sunday morning and enroll

themselves. There are more than 10,000 of them.

The other source is that great mass of people who are not in church anywhere — those 900,000 who are unchurched and unchristian. They will not enroll themselves. The only way they are going to be contacted is for all the rest of us to go out there and find them. It's not easy. In fact, it's tough. But that is one of the priorities of a Christian, and we are going to have to face up to it and either go into action or admit failure.

We can get that 10,000, but the benefit won't be in pride from seeing the final total.

It will be in the lives of the 10,000 who are reached.

## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### Susie Washburn

Susie — not Jeanie — with the light brown hair. Sixteen. Queen-Regent-in-Service. One of six Acteens chosen to make up the third Acteens National Advisory Panel, sponsored by Woman's Missionary Union, SBC.

I first met Susan Washburn at Queen's Court at Camp Garaywa. She stood, slender and poised, in the doorway to the dining room, before the Saturday night banquet. Over her long white dress she wore a satin cape. A gold crown perched saucily on her short curly hair. And in her hand she held a scepter.

"When I was four I was a crownbearer in a coronation service," she said, "and as I looked up at the Acteen queen and admired her, I began to look forward to the day when I would be a queen." Her alert brown eyes shone with little gleams of light and her lilting voice was tinged with laughter.

Since Susie and I share a name (my maiden name was Washburn), I have read news stories about her with an especial interest. She told me that her ancestors came from North Carolina. My great-great-grandfather, Solomon Washburn, moved to Alabama from Massachusetts.

Last week at the WMU Convention in Greenville I saw Susie again and heard her speak on the subject, "My Present World." This time she wore a red dress. I met her mother, Mrs. William Washburn of Blue Mountain, who teaches social science at Blue Mountain College. Susie's father is academic dean at the college and her sister Laurie is a ninth-grader. All of the family are members of the Lowrey Memorial Baptist Church, where Susie was baptized when she was nine.

She and other Acteen panelists (pictured in March Accent) were selected for scholastic achievement, school and church involvement, and accomplishments in Stadiact. They will write for Accent. They will be pages at the national WMU meeting in Houston, Texas in June, and they will go to Kansas City for the National Acteens Convention. (Another Mississippi girl, Talitha Edwards, who was a national



panelist in 1977, is now a student at Blue Mountain.)

Susie likes to write: "One of my favorite Stadiact projects," she said, "was editing an Acteens newsletter."

She likes to sing: "I'm really excited about being in our youth choir at Lowrey Memorial."

Her favorite hobby is raising heifers. "My father owns cows," she explains, "and I'm in 4-H club, so I decided to raise two heifers. We keep our cows on someone else's farm." She grinned when she added, "That way my dad can enjoy the cows when he wants to, and let someone else do the work when he doesn't want to!"

In Blue Mountain High School, where she is a junior, she belongs to Future Business Leaders of America, Beta Club, Spanish Club, and is statistician for the basketball team.

Last fall she had fun teaching Mission Friends — a group of 25. She told me, "As a Mission Friend (Sunbeam) myself I learned to love God. As a GA I learned to listen to God. As an Acteen I am learning how to serve God."

She was born in Ripley but has always lived in Blue Mountain. She doesn't know yet about future plans, but another favorite Stadiact project was "Her Lengthening Shadow," in which she played the part of Lottie Moon. She said, "I learned from Lottie to keep my mission line open to learn what God's will is for my life."

Her favorite Scripture is Jeremiah 1:6-8. "If we read this we have no excuse not to serve Him," she said, "and with God on our side we cannot fail."

### Guest Opinion . . .

## The Wrong Place To Cut

Elmer Gray, Editor  
California Southern Baptist  
Occasionally a letter comes from a church telling us that in order to cut its expenditures the church is either dropping *The California Southern Baptist* or has decided to send it only to the persons who request it.

One church secretary in sending us a greatly reduced mailing list wrote, "I personally regret having to cut our subscription list. I feel *The California Southern Baptist* is a 'lifeline' of information about the work in California. It keeps us informed about people we know (and those we don't). It is inspirational and informing. It's the wrong place to cut."

What could a church drop if it has to

cut back? For instance, should it cut out *The California Southern Baptist* or its telephone? It might use the phone of a neighbor or of its members but it couldn't go to either of those for the information provided in *The California Southern Baptist*. Or ask, should it cut off *The California Southern Baptist* or its electricity? I can't even answer that because people must have light, both physical light and also light from God's word and about God's work. To do without the CSB is to be needlessly limited.

The information and help in *The California Southern Baptist* is not available any other way — not in the daily paper, television, church bulletins, church curriculum literature, or

anything else.

Churches may be well-meaning but they shouldn't make their members ask for that which they need and which is good for them. Many people will not ask for *The California Southern Baptist* to be sent to them because they don't want to put the church to that expense and they don't want to impose on the office secretary or whoever keeps up the list. When I was a member of a civic club, I received the club's magazine and didn't have to ask for it and what I paid in dues was a lot less than what I contribute to my church.

I was a pastor for years and I know what people say. Someone will say, "There is no need to send the paper to

many people because they won't read it." The same argument could be used about quarterlies and even about the Bible. Churches that help their people want to read the Bible and other good literature will profit both spiritually and materially.

Churches will be affected by the current attitude of cutting organizational and institutional expenses. But they should be careful and not cut the very things they are basically committed to. Churches should teach and inform their members in order that they might participate to the fullest in witnessing for Christ and in ministering in his name. One of the most helpful aids in this is the state Baptist paper. —

## 1978 Cooperative Program Report

130 Churches gave nothing in 1977 and 1978.  
37 Churches gave nothing in 1978 but gave \$6,094 in 1977.

449 Churches gave less in 1978 than in 1977 — \$248,143.63 less!  
1,260 Churches gave more in 1978 than in 1977 — \$1,145,947.56 more.

68 Churches gave the same amount both years.  
All of our churches gave \$8,819,716.82 to World Missions

through the Cooperative Program.  
This was an increase of \$891,710.50 over 1977 or a 11.25 percent increase.

### An Open Letter To 167 Churches In Mississippi

By W. Guy Henderson  
Stewardship Dept.

Today I spread on my desk the total list of 1,944 of our churches and looked at the mission giving. It was good to see that the total amount given through the Cooperative Program increased 11.25 percent over the previous year. This amounted to a grand total of \$8,819,716.82.

Some of the churches and people had to sacrifice something they really wanted in order for this to take place. Our global mission program had to have high priority in their budget. Somebody had to really pull for this in budget meetings held many months ago. Somebody had to make a motion that mission giving be increased by 2

percent, 5 percent, or 10 percent for this to come to pass. Budget members had to vote to recommend this to the church and churches looked it over and said, "We'll do it." In voting to pass the budget they also voted for much else. Let me tell you what by looking at the other side of the coin.

There were 167 of our churches that gave nothing to world missions through the Cooperative Program last year. How did they arrive at this decision? Did someone rise up in a Budget Committee and say — "Let's no longer support Christian education," or "This year let's give nothing to our assembly and forget about training better teachers and leaders." Did some lady stand and say, "I'm opposed to taking care of homeless and abandoned children — let's give them nothing this year." Maybe a grim-faced fellow arose to say, "I surely cannot give to a BSU program that's seeking to keep Christ and his church in the life of students. They may be our leaders of tomorrow but I vote to give them nothing this year." This kind of spirit is contagious so another would hobble to the front and say, "Look folks, I know most of the world has yet to hear the gospel that people are bound down with evil and superstitions, and that millions go to bed hungry every night — but I move we give nothing to missions overseas." So on and on they paraded before the congregation to say, "Let's give absolutely nothing to causes outside our own community."

Personally, I don't believe this happened in a single church. It's not that someone stood to speak against it. It's just that no one moved to speak in favor of it! They just let it slide by and then a whole year slid by. "Let's just sit by and see how things turn out." It was not a negative action by the church but it was the lack of a positive action. It is so much easier to "pass by

on the other side" and leave human need to someone else.

Christianity is really a call for positive action. He that is not with me is against me," said our Lord. To put it in its perspective, perhaps the people never had a chance to vote one way or the other . . . yet, if all had done this, our schools would close, homeless children go unhoused and unfed, church programs go undeveloped, Bibles remain unpublished, and the great commission go unheeded. It's difficult for me to believe that any congregation voted in favor of this, and yet . . .

It's not too late right now to determine to do something about this. Our

"witness to the world" budget for 1979 is ten million dollars. It's the affirmative vote of thousands of people saying, "I believe, and I want to prove it." It is proving the "sincerity of our love" and saying to a world, "I care."

It grieves all of us to see that 167 congregations said "no" to outside causes . . . or even that 449 other congregations said that, in spite of inflation, dollar devaluation overseas, and a growing mission program — we will give less this year than we gave last year.

I believe when we face up to the real issues of our day and seriously review our priorities, the importance of a Bold Mission Thrust can be seen clearly. This is something that every church which follows our Lord will want to do.

## The Baptism Of General Sam Houston

By Kirby Tyrone  
Prentiss

The story is told in church and history circles in Texas — and possibly elsewhere — about the baptism of General Sam Houston.

Born in Tennessee, he migrated to Texas in early life and took up the life of an Indian fighter, general, conqueror of the Mexicans and President of the Republic of Texas. Up until his retirement in rural East Texas, Christianity and righteousness were totally foreign to him, devoting much of his time to wickedness and just about anything considered indecent to wholesome church people.

The day soon came when a powerful preacher of God began a revival at a country church near Houston's home. Having heard of the evangelist and his sermons, the general began to attend the services. The more he heard the messages the more he came under conviction of his sins and one day, full of emotions, he walked down the aisle

and surrendered to God, asking for membership in the church.

At the end of the week, the pastor announced the date of the baptisms, to be in a close by creek. One by one the new members walked down into the stream and were immersed. Then the old soldier waded into the water to the place the pastor was standing. But something happened — something startling — Sam Houston asked for the

ceremony to be held up for a moment, that something else was necessary. Asked what the problem was, the convert asked for somebody to bring his pocketbook to him. The minister stated to him that was not necessary. But Houston insisted that it was in his case, that he wanted not only himself, but his money to be baptized — that he wanted himself and his wealth to serve God. And his wish was granted.

## Book Reviews

EASTER BUNNY, ARE YOU FOR REAL? written by Harold Myra; illustrated by Dwight Wallis (Thomas Nelson, 32 pp., \$4.95). This colorful book was written with the purpose of helping children understand the difference between religious and secular Easter celebrations. It will help children to understand what the Easter Bunny has to do with the Resurrection.

THE NEW SMITH'S BIBLE DICTIONARY by William Smith, revised by Reuel G. Lemmons with Virgus Gideon, Robert F. Gribble and J. W. Roberts (Doubleday, paperback 441 pp., \$5.95). Written for the average man, this completely rewritten book will be a valuable aid in obtaining information found in a Bible dictionary. Pronunciation of proper names is one of the added additions.

ion. Twenty-five thousand additional copies of the Russian Bible are being imported through the European regional office of the United Bibles Societies. Soviet authorities granted an important permit in November at the request of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christian-Baptists in the Soviet Union. Five thousand concordances to the Bible will also be printed.

Bible Societies or councils exist in Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Yugoslavia. Bible Houses, where Scriptures may be purchased, are located in Budapest, Belgrade and Warsaw. In addition many of the national church groups themselves distribute the Word of God within their nations.

A listing of only some of the developments include: Twenty thousand copies of an illustrated modern language Polish New Testament have just been printed in Poland and are now in distribution. The Bible in modern Slovak, the translation of which took 35 years to complete, has been printed in Czechoslovakia. The Reformed Church Press office in Hungary has announced the publication of 10,000 copies of the Book of Psalms in a new Hungarian translation.

The Yugoslavian authorities have given permission for a new Slovenian translation of the four Gospels.

Observers of Eastern European church life have credited the increased Scripture distribution with the revitalization of many churches. Some trends noted include a large enrollment in Bible courses, a deepening spiritual life among believers, and an increase in church membership in a number of countries.

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Don McGregor Editor  
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor  
Anne McWilliams Editorial Assistant

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Bill Causey President  
Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
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# Names In The News . . .



THE BOBBY COOPER FAMILY of Westwood Church, Meridian has 58 years total perfect attendance in Sunday School. Mrs. Cooper has ten years, Mr. Cooper and son Gary have 11 years and son Dennis and daughter Mrs. Sheila Cooper McAlister have 13 years. Mr. Cooper is Sunday School director; Mrs. Cooper is director of Children's One Department. The entire family is active in all the church's activities. Dennis is assistant youth director. W. Buford Ury is the pastor.

Andrae Crouch and the Disciples blend gospel lyrics with a variety of musical styles in a way that appeals to audiences of all types. The group has appeared with rock stars Billy Preston and Santana as well as with Billy Graham, Pat Boone and Johnny Cash. The group will present its unique blend of gospel, rhythm 'n' blues, country, jazz and Latin rock on Sunday, April 1, at The University of Mississippi. The concert, sponsored by the Ole Miss Associated Student Body, is part of the annual Dixie Week spring festival at the University. The gospel concert is one of a dozen performances and many other activities scheduled during the April 1-6 Dixie Week festival. Tickets to the 8 p.m. concert in Fulton Chapel are \$4, and are available through the University's Central Ticket Office at 232-7411.

Jane Lide, emeritus Southern Baptist missionary to China, died March 11 in Darlington, S. C. She was 96. Funeral services were held March 13 at First Baptist Church, Florence, S. C., with interment in Welsh Neck Baptist Church's cemetery, Society Hill, S. C. Appointed in 1909, Miss Lide served in China until her retirement in 1953.

## Purkerson Will Lead Church Organ Workshop

A church organ workshop will be conducted on Tuesday, April 3, at Roseberry Piano House, Hattiesburg. The workshop will be led by Graham Purkerson, assistant professor of music at William Carey College, and is free to all church musicians and organists. Designed for all church musicians and organists, regardless of the type instrument they play, the workshop will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m. Following the workshop Purkerson will present a service of organ music at First Church, Purvis, on the church's new three-manual, drawknob console System 903-3 Allen organ.

Wendell and Laquita Powers, missionary associates to Taiwan, may be addressed at Kuo Kuang Road No. 158, Taichung 400, Taiwan, Republic of China.

Edgeworth Church on March 18 ordained two deacons—T. L. Brown and Allen Cooper. J. E. Drane, director of missions, Webster County Association, was on program, as were R. H. Redwine and the pastor, Richard Morman. Two of the church deacons had moved away, according to Mrs. R. L. Cooke, church clerk.



## Springspiration Banquet

First Church, Pontotoc held its third annual Springspiration Banquet on March 8, for 150 church elected leaders and staff. Long and short term goals were presented for the church for the second half of the year, as well as a review of what the first half has been. Guest speaker for the banquet this year was Tom Murray, a layman from Collier, Tenn., who stressed the importance of serving God wherever you are. Jim Hess, minister of music at First Church, and the Men's Quartet presented music. Head table guests, top photo, were John E. Sewell, Church Training director; Larry Young, chairman of deacons; Tom Murray, guest speaker; and Jimmy Wise, Sunday school director.

Billy Beckett is pastor of the Duncan Church, Bolivar County (not Boyle as stated in an article in the March 15 issue of the Baptist Record.)

Southside Church, Greenville, ordained Richard (Dickie) Peeples to the gospel ministry on March 25. Peeples is the pastor of Bethany Church, Merigold.

Ronnie Paul Engelmann was licensed to the gospel ministry at Calvary Church in Durant, March 11. Engelmann is 24 years of age, married and has four boys. He is planning to enter New Orleans Seminary in the fall of 1980. He was presented the certificate of license, on behalf of the church, by Phillip Mike Howell, interim pastor at Calvary.

Al J. Fike was recently selected to serve as camp pastor for the Centrifuge program at the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Glorieta, N. M., this summer. Centrifuge is a week-long youth camping experience that coincides with the regular Glorieta conference center weeks, June 9-Aug. 10. Sponsored by the church recreation department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, the program will enable more than 3,200 youth to participate in the Bible study, drama, worship, hiking, sports, games, crafts and other activities during the nine weeks. Fike, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fike of Leakesville, Miss., is a student at New Orleans Baptist Seminary. He recently served as youth director at Eastside Church, Magee.

## Southern Trustees Approve Religious Education Degree

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—The trustee executive committee of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has approved a three-year program in religious education, leading to a master of divinity in religious education degree.

The new plan combines features of the current master of religious education degree and the master of divinity degree. It requires the same biblical studies core and historical-theological studies core as the present master of divinity program. The major difference occurs in the third core area which will include educational courses currently included in the present master of religious education.

Students in the new program will be under the advisement of the faculty of the School of Religious Education. The seminary will continue to offer the two-year master of religious education degree.

The institution of the Sabbath has contributed more to the peace and good order of nations than could be accomplished by standing armies and the best organized police force. — James Gibbons

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## Mrs. R. L. Ray Dies At 103

Mrs. R. L. (Mama) Ray, age 103, Pontotoc County's oldest citizen, died at her residence on March 1, after an extended illness.

The daughter of J. M. (Jack) and Martha Lamar Thornton, she was born at Pine Valley, Mississippi, near Water Valley, on January 21, 1876. As a youngster she moved with her parents to Pontotoc where her father was associated with the Pontotoc Oil Mill.

Her first schooling was at Pine Valley, and after moving to Pontotoc, she attended old Chickasaw College in Pontotoc. A move to Italy, Texas, with her parents was the only time Mrs. Ray had been away from Pontotoc. And this was for only a brief period of time. It was in Italy, Texas that she was married to Robert Leland Ray, after first meeting him in Pontotoc. Ray died in 1955.

She served as president of the Women's Missionary Union and as treasurer of the WMU. For more than half-a-century she was chairman of the Lord's Supper committee.

For years she was director of the Beginners and Primaries in the Sunday School Department.

Mrs. Ray was the mother of six children and one preceded her in death: A son, Robert L. Ray, Jr., a Baptist minister, died December 20, 1959.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ray were conducted at First Church, Pontotoc at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, March 3, with her pastor, Gordon Sansing, assisted by Jim Hess, minister of music, officiating.

She leaves three daughters, Mrs. W. T. Lowrey of New Albany; Miss Hattie Mae Ray of Pontotoc; Mrs. W. R. Portlock of Starkville; two sons, O. T. Ray of Pontotoc; Rear Admiral (Ret.) H. L. (Lamar) Ray of Winter Park, Florida; seven grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren.

## G. B. Basden Dies At 72

Funeral services were held March 14 at Coffeetown for George Bynum Basden, retired pastor. Clifton Perkins of Clinton officiated, assisted by Donnie Stewart, pastor of First, Coffeetown.

Basden was pastor of First, Coffeetown for almost 20 years before his retirement Aug. 29, 1971, and has been pastor emeritus there since that time, as well as interim pastor of Hopewell Church for several years.

He was born in 1907 at Rienzi and grew up there. In 1926 he married Susie Elizabeth Presley. (She died in 1974.) After marriage he went back to school to get his high school diploma at Wheeler High School. In 1949 he received the B.A. degree from Union University at Jackson, Tenn.

Before moving to Coffeetown in 1952 he had been pastor at Wheeler Church, at two churches in Alcorn County, and four churches in Prentiss County.

Under his leadership at Coffeetown, a pastorate was built, a new education building was built, and additional land was bought for a new sanctuary. From 1952 to 1970 the church recorded 187 baptisms and 483 other additions. The budget grew from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Basden was a member of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for nine years and was second vice-president of the convention one year. He had been moderator of the Yalobusha Association.

On Sept. 28, 1975 he married Mary Ellen Hyde.

Gratitude is the heart's memory — French Proverb

## Just For The Record

Southside Church, Greenville, will observe 21st annual homecoming, Sunday, April 15. The day will begin at 7:30 a.m. with Men's Breakfast, followed by Sunday School, morning worship and dinner and fellowship at noon. The afternoon will be filled with music and songs.

Tom Espy will provide the scripture and prayer in the evening worship service and S. B. Boyette will bring the message at 4:30 p.m.

Homecoming at the Crosby Church will be on April 1, according to Mrs. Albert Case, chairman of the Homecoming Committee.

Bryant Hazlip, pastor of Kingston Church, will bring the message on Sunday morning. The Music Committee is working with the choir for special music.

The Social Committee is urging everyone to come and bring a basket of food for dinner on the ground. In case of rain, the dinner will be served inside.

Farrell McMorris is pastor.

Tylertown Church in Walthall County will have Homecoming on April 22. The day will begin with Sunday School and morning worship followed by a covered dish dinner on the grounds. At 2 p.m. everyone will return to the sanctuary for a service of music and preaching. There will be no 7 p.m. service. This event is the beginning of the revival which ends April 26.

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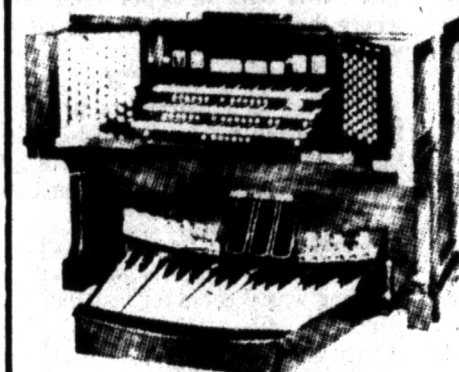
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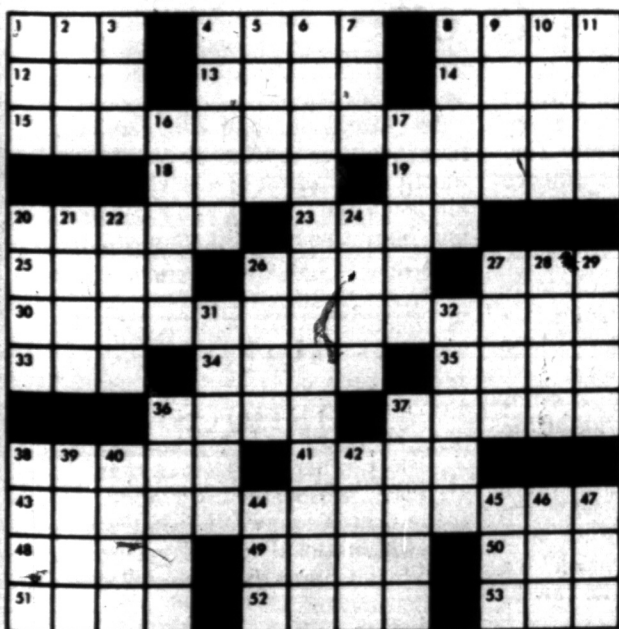
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Father of Canaan (Gen. 9:22)
  - 4 "the poison of" (Rom. 3)
  - 8 "unto me" (Jer. 33)
  - 12 Kimono accessory
  - 13 Fish
  - 14 Wild ox
  - 15 "peradventure it" (Num. 23)
  - 18 Long time
  - 19 "is the — of God" (Jas. 4)
  - 20 Ship part (Acts 27:29)
  - 23 Labels
  - 25 Air: comb. form
  - 26 Kowhai
  - 27 Hot springs
  - 30 "shall have" (Prov. 28)
  - 33 N.T. book: abbr.
  - 34 Man (Gen. 11:18; poss.)
  - 35 Canal or city
  - 36 Piercing tool (Ex. 21:8; pl.)
  - 37 They shall fall (Mark 13:25)
  - 38 Imperfectly
  - 41 Kind of camphor
  - 43 "standing up" (Acts 2)
  - 46 "As he saith also in" (Rom. 9)
  - 49 On a cruise
  - 50 Man (1 Chron. 4:15)

- DOWN**
- 1 In what manner
  - 2 Mother of a king (2 Ki. 18:2)
  - 3 Wire measure
  - 4 Colorado resort
  - 5 Perform alone
  - 6 "And the seven years of" (Gen. 41)
  - 7 Red or Yellow
  - 8 French city: poss.
  - 9 Angium: comb. form
  - 10 Weaver's need
  - 11 "The — of kingdoms" (Isa. 47)
  - 16 Wire used for money in old Asia
  - 17 Youngest son (1 Ki. 16:34)
  - 20 Of the sons of the giant (2 Sam. 21:18)
  - 21 TV, in London
  - 22 Jewish sabbath eve
  - 24 Man's nickname: poss.
  - 26 Pelvis: comb. form
  - 27 Antitoxins
  - 28 Two
  - 29 Orange and lemon
  - 31 "because we — in the living God" (1 Tim. 4)
  - 32 Fasten again
  - 36 Tribe (Num. 1:41)
  - 37 Salt-encrusted depression
  - 38 Some soldiers: abbr.
  - 39 Legal writ
  - 40 Shrub genus
  - 42 Directions to a horse
  - 44 Majagua
  - 45 By way of
  - 46 Sin
  - 47 Sister with a habit

### CRYPTOVERSE

ZKB QCRKHY MRC YLD WKPCMR  
MRLM IRLHH QOBV LI LV KTCV

Today's Cryptoverse clue: Q equals B

(Answer on page 3)



## 1st, Laurel, Will Dedicate Family Life Center April 1

By Anne McWilliams

First Church, Laurel, will hold the dedicatory service for its new Family Life Center Sunday, April 1, in the main auditorium at 10:30 a.m. At 2 p.m., Larry W. Kennedy, pastor, will officially dedicate the new facility on the front steps of the building. An open house will follow from 2 until 4 p.m.

This building with 20,000 sq. feet is one of the most complete family life centers to be found anywhere, according to a spokesman for the Church Architecture Department, Baptist Sunday School Board.

The family room has a fireplace. T. B. Corley, whose hobby is woodworking, made the mantel. Wooden ceiling beams, brick surfaces and chandeliers give this room a feeling of warmth and welcome. A television set will be placed in it. Portraits of former pastors will hang in the family room or on the pale yellow walls of the adjoining library.

The arts and crafts room has a dark room for photography and a kiln for ceramics enthusiasts. The game room is outfitted for ping pong and table games.

The gym is marked for shuffle board, tennis, basketball, and volleyball, and will also be used for skating and will give ample room for churchwide banquets, which space has not until now been available. An up-to-date kitchen is near the gym and new china ties in with the pattern of that in the old fellowship hall.

There's a well-equipped woodworking shop. Nice-sized locker rooms include showers. A large office beside the front entrance was planned for the activities director. Storage space for equipment is more than adequate.

The handball court is 20 x 40 x 20, standard size. William Sumrall, a lawyer on the Building Committee, and an expert at handball, said that it is an exercise that can be adapted to any age. Sumrall will probably be the teacher of a class in handball when activities at the center get into full swing.

Other volunteers will teach woodworking, and other games and crafts.

The purpose of the Family Life Center is in keeping with the stated purpose of the First Church of Laurel: "To lead people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and to active participation in the life of His church. Consistent with that purpose, emphasis will be placed on providing creative outreach activities to lead people to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, meaningful

educational and religious activities to lead Christians to a deeper commitment to our Lord, and wholesome leisure-time activities to strengthen the fellowship of our members."

Ralph Simmons, chairman of the Building Committee, stated, "This is a ministry to the total person. As we exercise our bodies here we can get to know each other better and develop a greater love for each other as fellow church members."

Sumrall said, "I feel that the church needs to be as aggressive in outreach as are our competitors. Television programs, night spots, ball games, are drawing people. We need to hold the church up as an attractive place to be. This family life center, we think, provides an alternative place for recreation — a place where people can know their kids will be supervised, and where the parents can enjoy going as well."

Simmons pointed out, "If we do our job raising our children and bringing them into the right relationship with Christ they will be missionaries in college or in New York or wherever they go."

Woody Barham, Jr., finance chairman, Family Life Center, said that the building was erected for less than the contract price. A successful "Together We Build" campaign was held. Barham said that there were not just a few big givers, but that many members pledged. He emphasized that since the addition of this building, Cooperative Program giving and gifts to special missions offerings have increased, rather than vice versa.

Fred Watner of Bay St. Louis was the architect and Tony Polk of Columbia was the contractor. Jo Lynn Hurst was the interior decorator. Tommy King is chairman of the Policy (Subcommittee).

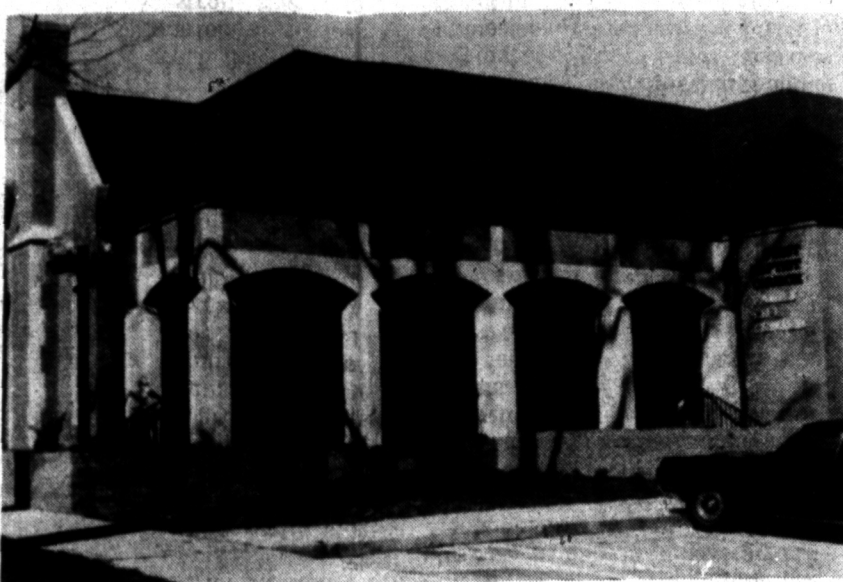
The landscaping was done by two horticulturists, members of the church, Jim Palmer and Joe Altmeyer. Sixty-five men of the church met for two Saturdays to plant the shrubbery, and estimated that they thus saved about \$9,000 in labor costs.

Ground was broken for the center in August, 1977. A survey had been taken in 1971 to find out the people's wishes concerning the building and to determine the needs. In 1973 the Building Committee was appointed and members of it have been working together for six years.

Pastors at Laurel during earlier stages of planning and building in-



Building Committee for Family Life Center, First, Laurel: Seated, left to right: Mrs. Vincent Scooper, Jr.; Ralph T. Simmons, chairman; Mrs. J. R. Mozingo. Standing, left to right: S. C. Shaw, William W. Sumrall, Dewey D. Blackledge, Jr., John M. Caughman, and Jim Johnson, vice-chairman.



SHADOWS of giant oak trees form a pattern on the roof top of the new Family Life Center at First Church, Laurel. The center will be dedicated April 1.

cluded Bob Marsh and Jim Keith. Marsh is now at Second Ponce de Leon Church in Atlanta and Keith is at First, Gulfport.

The committee was chosen to represent different age groups. S. C. Shaw, representing the senior adults, says he believes the building will help to meet their emotional and spiritual needs, as well as social ones.

Wheelchairs can come in the back entrance, or by the kitchen door. Mrs. Dell Scooper, WMU director at the church and member of the Building Committee said that the Center will be used for the next rocking chair party that the WMU gives annually for nursing home residents.

The building is a beautiful one, and looks more like a sanctuary than a gymnasium, so that it will be clear that its purpose is the same as that of the church. The many windows will remain uncurtained, except in the family room, to let in the sunlight.



Cynthia Simmons, part time activities director for First, Laurel, stands beside the new ceramics kiln. An elementary school teacher, she will give full time to the church during the summer. From Utica, she is a graduate of Mississippi State. She succeeds Richard Workman, full-time director who resigned recently.

### Devotional

## The Actors In The Story

By Bill Causey, Pastor, Parkway, Jackson, And President, Mississippi Baptist Convention  
Luke 15:11-32

It is often instructive to pay close attention to the people who are the actors in the parables of Jesus. The story of the prodigal son is particularly helpful.

I. The prodigal himself is disobedient and unloving. It really doesn't matter to him who is hurt or disappointed in the process, he wants what he wants. Such people always use up their resources — not only material wealth, but more devastatingly their emotional and spiritual reserves. They are certainly no help if there is a crisis in the land. They become dependent on others even if these "others" are citizens of "that" country. Simon Peter, you remember, also warmed himself by the enemy's fire on an occasion.

II. The citizen of that country was uncaring and unloving. In one brush stroke Jesus simply said "and no man gave unto him." This citizen easily compelled the young man to do things that were opposed to his upbringing. Memory, sharply jogged by this disillusionment, recalled the father's identity. Turning to "others" does not suffice. Home is where he belongs! You just aren't "home" until you are with the father.

III. The father is caring and loving. He heard the young man's confession and without ignoring his admission of failure covered it with symbols of acceptance. The robe and ring, the sandals and servants, food and festivity, "resurrection" and recovery all become the natural environment of being home with the father. The father's house is the only place where real caring and loving heal the obvious and admitted scarring caused by being "away!"

IV. The older brother is obedient but unloving. How much more comfortable we could all be if the story had ended with the new relationship of father and son. But being obedient without love creates fractured relationships. Uncomfortable tensions arise. The caring and loving father is as exercised to bring this one in as he was to get the other one home!

The only way to be like the father is to be caring and loving. And... just maybe... more would come home!

## Charles Petty Will Direct Family Life Conference At Yazoo City

A family life conference will be held at First Church, Yazoo City, March 30-April 1.

Charles V. Petty, executive director of the North Carolina Governor's Office of Citizen Affairs, will direct the conference. James F. Yates, host pastor, states that the public is invited.

The conference will begin Friday evening at 7:30. Saturday's schedule will include breakfast for men at 8 and a program on "The Pitfalls of Being a Good Husband and Father: As Seen from the Bottom of the Pit"; coffee

for women at 10 a.m. and discussion of "What is a Nice Woman Like You Doing in a Home Like Yours?"; lunch at 12 for senior adults and discussion of the topic, "Living Longer and Liking It"; Saturday supper at 6 p.m. for parents of pre-teens with a program on "As the Twig Is Bent"; and 7:30 p.m. for everyone, on "Communicating Clearly."

At Sunday School at 9:40 Sunday, Petty will talk to teen-agers on "Growing With Your Favorite Squeeze" and at the 11 a.m. worship service on "This I Promise."

### Pastor 29 Years

## Plainway Will Celebrate

April 1 will mark the 29th anniversary of the pastorate of Harold C. Ishee at Plainway Church, Laurel. On this date the church will observe "Homecoming" with "dinner-on-the-grounds."

Ishee is the first and only pastor that Plainway has ever had.

Plainway began as a mission of Second Avenue Church, Laurel, while

James Street was Pastor. November 26, 1950, the mission was organized into the Joe Wheeler Church, and called Ishee as pastor.

On September 19, 1956, the church relocated at the corner of North 16th Ave. and 12th St. Laurel. The name of the church was changed to Plainway, based upon Proverbs 15:19, "... the way of the righteous is made plain."

## Uniform Lesson

### Free But Responsible

By Larry Kennedy, First, Laurel  
1 Cor. 10:23-11:1

The city of West Berlin exists as an "island of mercy" inside Russian-occupied East Germany. On August 13, 1961, Communist troops erected a wall around the city of West Berlin to keep thousands of people from fleeing the Communist government of East Germany. Today the Berlin wall consists of the following: a nine-foot concrete ditch to keep cars from breaking through; a wire fence ten feet above the ground and three feet below the ground to prevent tunneling; automatic firing machine guns triggered by electronic eyes; minefields and roaming vicious dogs.

In spite of the almost impregnable wall, last year 573 freedom-hungry people made it safely over. Already in 1978 hundreds have managed to find a weak link in the wall and have found sanctuary in West Berlin. Freedom is a precious commodity.

The apostle Paul was man who appreciated freedom, especially the freedom he had in Christ; however, freedom to Paul was not the right to do as he pleased. It was the joy to be responsible to God and men through the grace of Christ.

I. Free to help Others

In the Corinthian church there was a dispute among the members concerning the eating of meat that had been offered to idols. When an animal was sacrificed at a pagan temple in Corinth only a small portion of the animal was actually used. The rest of the meat was sold in the market place for human consumption. Some members of the local church felt that it was morally wrong to eat this meat. Others in the church did not see this as a moral question and felt free to eat the meat. Paul agreed with the latter but insisted that in the presence of a weaker brother who viewed the meat as a moral problem, it would be best not to eat the meat.

Paul imagines a hypothetical situation in which two believers are eating with an unbeliever. One believer feels free to eat any meat, but the other does not. If the unbelieving host reveals that the meat on the table was used in a pagan sacrifice, the Christian who has no problem about sacrificial meat should refrain from eating in order to help the weaker believer. Paul said, "But if anyone should say to you, 'This

is meat sacrificed to idols,' do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for (his) conscience" (1 Cor. 10:28).

Paul challenged the church to be sensitive to the needs of others. He said, "Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor" (1 Cor. 10:24). Recently some members of First Baptist Church Laurel went on a mission trip to Honduras. Several ladies went along to help with the cooking. Since the mission station was in the mountains, our ladies took with them plenty of slacks; however, upon reaching the mission station, the local missionary asked the ladies never to wear slacks outside of the mission house. The wearing of slacks by women was considered to be immoral in the community and it would have greatly troubled the native Christians and hindered witnessing among the nonbelievers.

II. Free for the Glory of God

Paul believed that being sensitive to his neighbor glorified God. After challenging the stronger believer to be sensitive to the weaker one, he said to remember that "whether, then, you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31). God is honored and glorified when we are interested in the welfare of all believers, especially those who are just learning to walk in the faith.

Professor J. W. MacGorman tells of a missionary who was walking with a native pastor in Africa. While walking down a jungle path, they came across a pile of sticks which was the work of a juju priest. Someone in the area had become ill, and the priest had been called in to help. The juju priest had placed the sticks in the path with the belief that the sickness of the ill person would be transferred to the first person stepping over the sticks. The missionary made fun of the device and repeatedly jumped over the sticks while making jesting remarks. The native pastor took one look at the sticks and then proceeded to walk in a wide arc around them. After getting back in the path, the native pastor said, "My head knows that there's nothing to it, but my feet don't!"

III. Free for the Salvation of Others

Paul reminded the Corinthian believers that they should be sensitive to each other and to lost men everywhere. He said, "Go to offense either to Jews or to Greeks... just as I

also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of the many, that they may be saved" (1 Cor. 10:32-33).

The way we live as believers determines how others will receive the gospel. According to some historians, Hitler got his ideas for a super race from the German philosopher, Nietzsche. Once Nietzsche considered becoming a Christian. He decided to live among people who were considered to be devoted to see if Christianity had any substance. Later he was to write, "These Christians will have to look a lot more redeemed before I can believe in it."

The failure of those Christians had unbelievable consequences. Gandhi was the great Hindu leader of India. In his youth he decided to attend Christian church services. He later wrote: "The church will not make a favorable impression on me. The congregation did not strike me as being particularly religious. They were not an assembly of devout souls; they appeared to be rather worldly-minded, going to church in conformity to custom... I could not go on like this and soon gave up attending the service."

Pastor Winfred T. Bridges tells of a stray dog that was following his family on an evening stroll. His daughter started to pet the dog, but he shouted, "No, we cannot pet this dog; this dog is lost."

His daughter responded, "No daddy, he is not lost; he is following us."

The person behind you. Is he lost, or is he following you?

## Christian Social Minister Resigns

Robert C. Tate Jr., Christian social minister for Gulf Coast and Jackson County Associations, has resigned to accept a position as pastor of First Baptist Church of North Highlands, California, a suburb of Sacramento.

The church is multi-racial and is near McClellan Air Force Base. Tate was a guest of the church during a recent World Mission Conference there. He found the church to have a strong interest in Christian social ministries. He will assume his new duties on Easter Sunday, April 15.

## Life and Work Lesson

### Citizens Of Two Kingdoms

By Joe McKeever, First, Columbus  
Romans 13

How you interpret Romans 13 can get you into a lot of trouble. It deals with the age-old Church-State controversy. What kind of allegiance does a Christian owe to civil authority?

Here's what I mean. Some modern historians attribute the willingness of the German soldiers under Hitler to commit atrocities to the Lutheran doctrine of church and state. Martin Luther had advocated one authority for both areas, with citizens giving the same obedience to one as the other.

The result over the years was a national attitude that the government speaks for God and must be obeyed. Therefore, a soldier could murder innocent Jews at his leader's command and feel no personal guilt. He was, after all, only obeying orders. And blaming it on Scripture.

This chapter of Paul's letter divides easily into two sections. Each half sounds a note which Christians in 1979 need to hear.

### Citizens Of An Earthly Kingdom

13:1-7

All authority is God's. So, wherever a man stands in the position of authority, to that extent he is God's representative. And accountable to God for his use of that authority.

The Christian is to submit to all such authority, Paul says. Such submission means an obedient lifestyle and respectful attitude.

April 15 will soon be on us. Income taxes will be due. Some who study this sort of thing tell me that cheating on income tax may well be the number one sin for Christians in America. If so, God will judge us for such disobedience, for His word is clear.

Four reasons stand out for our submission to government of this world. (1) It is of God. (13:1,2). To obey God means to be a good citizen. (2) It is for our own good. (13:3,4) A fallen world needs laws and policemen and traffic lights.

(3) It is for conscience sake. (13:5) Both for their own self-respect and Christian witness, God's people must be good citizens.

(4) The authorities deserve your cooperation. (13:6,7) They work for you.

In the 1960's when civil rights leaders were breaking laws about parades and where to sit on the bus, some of us

quoted Romans 13 to those folks, many of whom called themselves Christians. We told them Christians should obey laws.

The response of these people was that we ought to read Acts 4:19-20. The early disciples drew a line on how far they went in obeying earthly authority. Where man's laws conflict with God's, man's must go. And, they added, when a Christian decides to obey God and not man, he must be willing to pay the consequences. They were.

And we learned an important rule about biblical interpretation — Scripture must be compared with Scripture.

One more point. When Christians must establish a pattern, a reputation, of obeying the law so that when we find it necessary to disobey for conscience sake, our decision will be respected.

### Citizens Of A Heavenly Kingdom

13:8-14

The law of God's Kingdom is love. And it is to be obeyed. So Paul points out that obedience of the law of love meets the demands of the law.

He makes a good point. It's not necessary to go around studying all the laws you must obey. Simply love one another and act accordingly.

That sounds simple. So why are Christians carrying grudges, and deacon boards split by dissension? We need a new emphasis on the law of love. (13:8-10)

Paul next describes lives of light (13:11-13) As redeemed children of God, there ought to be a difference between you and the unsaved of this world. What kind of difference? In four areas —

(1) Live in an awareness of the end-time. (13:11) Knowing of Christ's return makes a difference in how to run your business.

(2) Live in the daylight. (13:12) You have no excuse for disobedience, having received the Lord's light. So, don't be stumbling as if you walked in darkness.

(3) Live a worthy life. (13:13) Paul names four fleshly sins and two worldly attitudes, all of which are unworthy of a Christian.

(4) Live in the Lord Jesus (13:14). "Stay dressed in Christ" may be an idea foreign to us. But the point is to burn your other bridges and throw yourself completely on Jesus. Let Christ be your only protection against spiritual nakedness.

This chapter concludes with one of three great negative admonitions which help us walk in the Spirit.

(1) Make no provision for the flesh (13:14). That is, don't plan to fail. Cut the ties with bad habits. Make it hard to disobey the Lord.

(2) Give no place to the devil (Eph. 4:27). Give him no handhold in your life, nothing to call his own. Have nothing in you that calls him Master. Jesus said, "The Prince of this world comes and has nothing in me."

(3) Quench not the Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19). We grieve the Spirit by striving against Him, but we quench the Spirit by refusing Him.

As citizens of God's Kingdom, our first loyalty is to Him. Therefore, we must put E. n first in everything, cut all ties to evil habits and the Evil one, and obey the Holy Spirit promptly. And love one another as Christ has loved us.

## Staff Changes

Leroy Stuart Jr. of Pelahatchie has

been called as the minister of music to Edwards Church at Edwards. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and is a member of the "Sons of Faith" quartet. D. W. Green is pastor.

Southside Church, Greenville, has extended a call to David and Janet Jay of Newton as summer youth workers. The Jays accepted the call and will be on the church field May 27.

Larry Richardson, music director of Liberty Church, Flowood, is on sick leave. The interim director is Robert R. Measells, Morton native who is on the music staff of the First Covenant Presbyterian Church, Jackson. Measells attended Hinds Junior College, MSU, and Purdue University. He owns Research and Planning Business Consultants. He and his wife, the former Jan Walsh of Indiana, live at Crossgates near Brandon.



# "The Family Will Survive And The Church Can Help"

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)— The American family is in deep trouble. That appeared to be the conclusion, if not the general assumption, expressed by a parade of speakers at a national Southern Baptist seminar on family life.



sed by a parade of speakers at a national Southern Baptist seminar on family life.

Yet despite some ominous forecasts, strongly-worded warnings, sharp criticism, and occasional disagreement, all of the speakers agreed that the family will survive and that the church can help — if it is willing to get its hands dirty.

First Lady Rosalynn Carter voiced that opinion in the opening session of the conference sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and attended by over 750 persons from 25 states.

Quoting Ralph Waldo Emerson's statement that "the lesson of life is to believe what the years and the centuries say against the hours," Mrs. Carter said that while "the hours say the family is in trouble, the centuries

say that the family will survive."

Mrs. Carter, scheduled to make a personal appearance at the seminar, spoke via telephone so she could be present at the signing of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty in Washington on the same day. She claimed that in an age of drastic, rapid change, "the family alone provides the basic place to stand."

Pollster George Gallup Jr. and family specialist Wallace Denton of Purdue University sounded similar positive notes in their addresses.

Gallup, whose organization has done extensive research on trends in the American family, cited statistics from recent surveys as evidence that the family is here to stay. "Three women in four in the United States say marriage and children are among the important elements that would provide the ideal life for them," Gallup noted, pointing out that the survey results defy popular stereotypes.

He added that surveys show that "41 percent of the American people — including the overwhelming majority of young adults — say they would welcome more emphasis on traditional family ties in the years ahead."

Gallup urged a "team effort between parents and clergy to deepen spiritual values in the home and deal specifically with certain problems such as alcohol abuse, which call for immediate attention."

Denton outlined possible future trends for families, predicting a decrease in the next 20 years in "traditional families comprised of the mother, father and their dependent children" and increases in the divorce rate and the number of cohabitating couples, solo parents and term marriages. The church, he said, must address itself to these anticipated changes if it is to help families in the future.

The family studies professor and author also predicted that the present women's liberation movement will be followed by a "men's liberation

movement" which he hopes will bring new understandings of what it means to be masculine.

"A two-fisted world has never appreciated the compassionate, gentle, patient, weeping, Jesus," he claimed. "Somehow he comes across as weak and effeminate. . . . Perhaps this new and liberated generation of men will achieve a level of masculinity that Jesus had achieved two thousand years ago."

Denton and sociology professor Sarah Frances Anders of Louisiana College, Pineville, La., pleaded for the church to consider singleness as much a "family" as the traditional, nuclear family. Anders noted that society has historically considered non-marriage a deviancy equated with "a harelip,

(Continued on Page 5)

# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## Revivals, Growth Campaigns Dominate April Church Life

By Tim Nicholas

If the month of April ends with any Mississippian not knowing who the

Baptists are, that person has been living in a cave.

At least 750 Mississippi Baptist churches will be holding revivals in April under the banner of Good News Mississippi. And the churches are hard at work enlisting new Sunday School members.

The first Sunday in April, the churches reported to the associations which in turn reported to the Sunday School Department, that 1581 persons became new members of Mississippi Baptist Sunday Schools.

The banner for this enlistment drive is "Five Fabulous Sundays," named

so because of the fact that April has five of them.

The Convention Board set a goal of 10,000 new Sunday School members in April in the nearly 2,000 participating churches in the convention.

On March 29, Grady Cothen and Robert Fullbright of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, sent "the convention" a telegram to the board offices in Jackson.

They said, "We are delighted and encouraged by your goals for Five Fabulous Sundays and 10,000 new Sunday School members in April. These are worthy goals and seem attainable

as each church strives to enroll at least one new person each Sunday in Sunday School in that month. May God crown your efforts with success, to the glory of His kingdom."

All of these activities are part of Mississippi Baptists' participation in Bold Mission Thrust, a Southern Baptist

(Continued on Page 3)

First Weeks Total  
Five Fabulous Sundays

1,581

## Senior Adults Will Open Gulfshore Summer Program

Senior adults will open up the summer schedule at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly this year with a four-day convention. This program planned by Kermit S. King, Senior Adult Consultant for Mississippi, features only one out-of-state person. He is W. Eugene Grubbs of the Foreign Mission Board.

The convention which is scheduled May 21-24 will feature three pastors leading the Bible studies. These will be sermonie character studies by R. Raymond Lloyd of First Church, Starkville; P. A. Michel of First Church, Brookhaven; and David Grant of Broadmoor Church, Jackson.

Grubbs, who is Consultant on

Laymen Overseas and Coordinator of Hunger Relief and Disaster Response on the staff of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will be speaking twice. He will be outlining the need for personal involvement in missions through volunteer service.

Music for the convention is under the direction of Tom Larrimore, Jackson based music evangelist. Working with him as instrumentalist will be Irene Martin of Forest, and soloists, Greta Lloyd of Starkville and Judy McKeigney of Jackson.

Each day will begin and end with a devotional thought presented by Golda Stubblefield of Jackson.

Additional program features in-

clude a presentation of how the Baptist Foundation ministers to senior adults. This will be led by Harold Kitchings. A

(Continued on Page 3)

## MBS Signs For First Phase

The Mississippi Baptist Seminary has signed a contract to build the first phase of the new seminary complex on Lynch Street in Jackson.

The contract, for \$199,430, is to Wallace Edison, general contractor to build 4,000 square feet of administration, library and interim classroom space.

Design for the seminary is by Dan Bennett of Jackson.

The contract signing was reported to trustees of the seminary last week. Trustees also heard a report from President Dick Brogan which indi-

(Continued on Page 3)

## SBC Asks No Reimbursement

By Anita Bowden

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board submitted no claims and expects to receive no money from the recently signed U.S.-China claims accord which states that China will pay \$80.5 million for American property seized by the communists in 1949.

Although the board holds deeds to millions of dollars in mission property in China, Baker J. Cauthen, executive director, said they will seek no settle-

ment on property. In the 1950s when a claims committee was set up by the U. S. government, the Foreign Mission Board decided to submit no claims.

The American Baptist Churches in the USA, on the other hand, decided to enter \$2.5 million in claims. The SBC owned some property in China jointly with Southern Baptists, for which no claim will be made, a spokesman said, but also owned other properties outright for which claim will be made.

Commenting on the SBC Foreign Mission Board's position, Cauthen

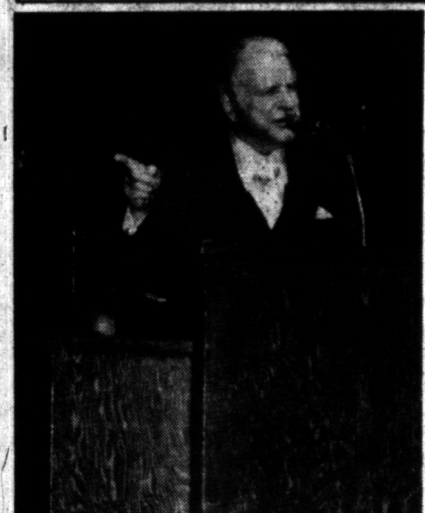
said, "It has been our hope that ultimately we may be able to have access to the properties to use them for their original purposes. Any financial settlement based on 41 percent of the estimated value as of 30 years ago is entirely unrealistic."

Announcement that the agreement between the U.S. and China had been signed came March 2 from Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal. China has agreed to pay 41 cents on the dollar to settle \$197 million in claims.

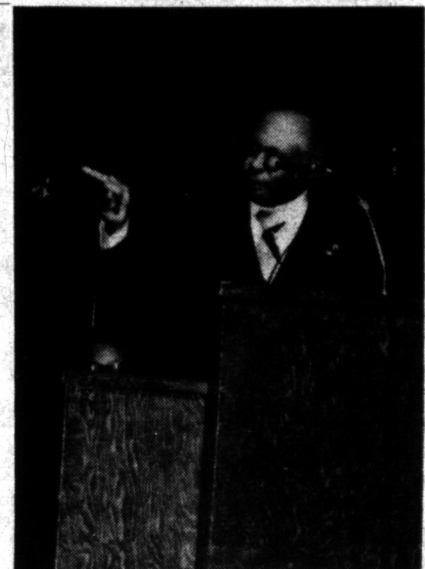
(Continued on page 2)



On the platform at the rally are, left to right, Richard Porter, Calvin Thomas, J. M. Wood, and Earl Kelly. The choir is behind them.



W. A. Criswell



Richard Porter

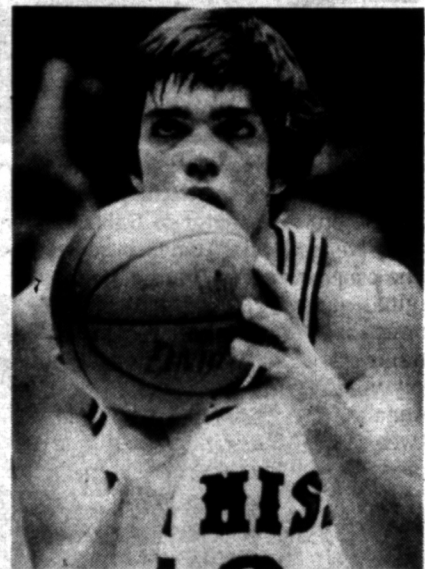
## RA Congress Is Set For April 13-14 In Clinton

John Stroud and Ricky Kennedy are Mississippians on the program of the Royal Ambassador Congress set April 13-14 at the coliseum on the Mississippi College campus in Clinton.

Stroud, University of Mississippi basketball player, will give his Christian testimony. And Kennedy, music minister at Bethel Baptist Church in Hazlehurst, will lead the music.

The congress is designed for Royal Ambassadors in grades 1-12, prospects and leaders. It begins at 3 p.m., April 13 and ends at noon the next day.

(Continued on Page 2)



Stroud

## "Neither Shall They Learn War Any More"

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Reciting that ancient vision of peace from the prophet Isaiah, the Moslem president of Egypt, Jewish prime minister of Israel, and Christian president of the United States signed a historic peace treaty ending 30 years of hostilities between the two Middle East nations.

Perhaps never before had instruments of peace among nations been signed on such a spiritual note. The argument is made, in fact, that the peace would never have been reached without the intense religious commitment of the principals.

At the ceremony on the north lawn of the White House, on a crisp but brilliant sunny day, March 26, Anwar Sadat, Menachem Begin, and Jimmy Carter all cited Isaiah's hopeful vision, perhaps written during the Hebrew exile in the 6th century B.C.

More than 28 centuries later, after all the documents had been signed, President Carter, the Southern Baptist deacon, volunteer missionary and Sunday School teacher, concluded his brief remarks by calling on God's help to achieve the eventual peace hoped for by the three modern

day leaders: "We pray God together that these dreams will come true. I believe they will."

Besides quoting the Isaiah vision located in chapter 2, verse 4, of the Old Testament book, Carter also quoted an appropriate passage on peacemaking from the Holy Book of the Moslems, the Koran.

Sixteen months ago when Carter made his first bold gamble for peace in the Middle East by calling Sadat and Begin to Camp David for a summit meeting, the three had issued a call for prayer to peoples of all faiths around the world.

Throughout the lengthy and frustrating search for a treaty, Carter seized again and again the common religious commitment of the two middle eastern leaders. He would not let them forget the vision.

And when peace, conditional as it is, was reached and the two came again to Washington to sign the treaty, they joined the American president in highlighting the spiritual dimension of the new agreement.

Sadat called his, Begin's and Carter's efforts a "sacred mission." He paid lavish tribute to Carter as "the man who performed the miracle," and declared "He was armed with the blessing of God."

And before concluding his speech in Arabic, Sadat too quoted Isaiah's vision.

Begin began his address by citing the vision, and his comments were flavored throughout with the spiritual dimension. Declaring that March 26 was "the third greatest day in my life" (ranking behind the day the modern state of Israel was formed in 1948 and the day six years ago when Jerusalem became "one city"), Begin confessed that "God gave me the strength to persevere."

That statement somehow wrapped up the importance of the spiritual magnitude of the 16-month odyssey toward peace.

Begin had been hospitalized, his heart ailment aggravated by the strenuous negotiations. Sadat looked drawn; his wife expressed concern over his loss of weight. And Carter, two years into his presidency, looked many years older than during his campaign for the high office.

Nevertheless, all three made one believe that they meant it when they declared that all the effort had been worthwhile. Even while warning that many obstacles yet remain before Egypt and Israel are, in Carter's words, "neighbors in the best sense of the word," all three expressed the conviction that Isaiah's vision had become to come true.

Begin summed up the sense of victory toward the end of his speech when he explained, "No more war, no more bloodshed . . . peace unto you . . . Shalom, Salaam forever!" And then he put the finishing touch on this most unusual of

peace ceremonies by reading Psalm 126:

"When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing:

Then said they among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for them.

The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

Turn again our captivity, O Lord,

As the streams in the south.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed,

shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,

Bringing his sheaves with him." KJV

SBC President Jimmy Allen was among four Southern Baptists present at the signing by special invitation. The others were Charles Trentham and Fred Gregg, Carter's pastor and Sunday School teacher respectively, and Earl Dove, Dothan, Ala.

Allen, who took time out from preaching at an evangelistic rally at the 150-year-old First Baptist Church of Montgomery, Ala., to attend the signing, said the treaty was just a beginning to lasting peace but, "I'm grateful for every piece of peace."



# FMB Stretches Available Funds To Help Brazil's Flood Refugees

By John J. Hurt

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (BP) — Flood waters that have played havoc with a fourth of Brazil have its citizens watching rain clouds now with the same concern Texans and Oklahomans have for tornadoes.

Some rivers are receding; others are rising as water pours down from the mountains. But in all areas, the ground is soaked, and more rain means more houses collapse, more highways disappear, more uncertainty is added to the time for normal living.

Southern Baptist missionaries and Brazilian Baptists have turned from their assignments in church ministry to minister toward the refugees of the severe flooding.

Fred L. Hawkins Jr., Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil acting as flood relief coordinator for South Brazil, said Southern Baptist funds channeled through the Foreign Mission Board have "helped to lift the morale of the pastors and people who are suffering." He added, "Many were in a state of shock and had no idea what they were facing."

Hawkins, who earlier reported the need of \$300,000 for hunger and disaster relief, now describes total needs as "more and more staggering." But he sees the aid as "vital" to getting churches and people back to a near state of normalcy.

Inadequate relief funds require spreading money thinly among the suffering, but expressions of appreciation abound. The Foreign Mission Board, stretching all available funds, has provided \$285,000 for work, coordinated with Brazilian state convention secretaries and local pastors, to help Baptist families.

"Churches and church members are embracing one another," said Jose Bittencourt, executive secretary of the Baptist convention in Minas Gerais, a state larger than Texas and one of the hardest hit. He said relief funds had gone only to "the most critical needs."

Typical of the inadequacy of funds is the case of Bittencourt's own son-in-law, Oliveira de Araujo, pastor of First Baptist Church in Manhuacu, a city where about half its corporate limits was under water for more than a week. It wasn't until Bittencourt took a reporter there that he learned his son-in-law hadn't received any salary since January, and there's no indication when he will get a payment. But Araujo mentioned this only to his father-in-law. He told visitors about the \$3,000 in relief funds which "helped because our people knew other people cared about them."

Flood waters caused destruction or condemnation of about 325 homes in his city. Scores live with more fortunate relatives. Fifteen families live in a former store within a block of the

pastorium. The pastor has taken in two girls, whose parents are with relatives. An estimated 6,100 of Manhuacu's 40,000 residents have become refugees.

Typical, too, are situations in which people without work cannot maintain church contributions. Lack of funds in church treasuries spells trouble for state conventions. Bittencourt declined to estimate what the floods would do to convention programs, but some observers forecast drastic cuts in pastoral aid.

Communication with churches and mission points is being resumed in most of the flood areas, but reports are incomplete. In the state of Minas Gerais, according to some reports, 307 cities received some damage and 51 were isolated for days. In the state capital, Belo Horizonte, water rose to six and eight feet in the business district and traffic now zig-zags trying vainly to avoid potholes. Some 200,000 were homeless at one time in Minas Gerais. Refugee camps still dot some

hillsides and will for many weeks. The state reports 12,451 houses destroyed and 14,968 damaged.

The Brazilian-operated orphanage at Itacaja, where 65 children were evacuated, reported it was back in operation, but water damage was estimated at \$13,000. Benjamin Cardoso Reis, orphanage director, said soaring food costs added to his problems. He jumped from a food-loaded canoe to keep it from capsizing in a raging river as he carried the first supplies to the orphanage grounds. Food costs can be judged by the fact that the canoe held \$2,000 in supplies.

Brazilian Baptists, historically among the most progressive in caring for their own needs, are helping their own people as best they can. Churches that escaped major damage have sent van loads of food and clothing to affected areas. This country's Baptists, working toward total support of their pastors by their 1982 centennial celebration, still insist they will make it despite current problems.



Houses and furniture are strewn along the banks of the Figueirinha River in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, following the worst flood in history to hit the South American country. Thousands have been homeless or without food.

and many flood victims will remain in financial straits for months to come. Southern Baptist missionaries and Brazilian Baptists are working to relieve Baptist families and aid other victims. (BP) Photo by Roberta Hampton.

## Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



**Santa Barbara, Calif. (RNS)** — A new Church which will attempt to promote Christian unity through denominationalism has been formed by several evangelicals who were formerly on the staff of Campus Crusade of Christ. Named the Evangelical Orthodox Church, the denomination is made up of some 50 congregations with about 2,500 members that were previously served by the New Covenant Apostolic Order (NCAO). The Order was established in 1974 by seven former Campus Crusade staffers, one of whom, Peter E. Gillquist, has been named Presiding Bishop of the new denomination.

**Los Angeles (RNS)** — Superior Court Judge Julius M. Title has dissolved the receivership of the Worldwide Church of God on condition Church officials cooperate with the state attorney general in making a "full and complete examination and audit" of the \$80 million a year enterprise.

**Evanston, Ill. (RNS)** — United Methodists gave a record \$67,580,296 during 1978 to support denominational programs, including an all-time high of \$23.5 million for World Service, according to a new financial report. The total giving, however, is the smallest annual gain since 1971 when a decrease of a fraction of a percent was recorded. The 1978 totals were six-tenths of a percent above the 1977 figures, the report said.

**New York (RNS)** — Since the "opportunities for religious expression continue to be extremely restricted" in the People's Republic of China, an agency of the Lutheran Church of America has asked its members who travel there for any reason to witness informally for their Christian faith.

**Charlotte, N.C. (RNS)** — The financially troubled PTL religious network based here faces new problems — an investigation by the Federal Communications Commission. PTL club president Jim Bakker has begun asking on the syndicated programs for prayers that the club not be forced off the air. The FCC is said to be looking into possible violation of its regulations that stipulate that money raised by television appeal for one purpose may not be spent for another.

**Springfield, N.J. (RNS)** — Jewish teenagers from Conservative synagogues in New Jersey have organized a campaign to provide matzos for Soviet Jews during the Passover holiday which begins April 11. Only a small matzo production is permitted in the USSR for distribution to the nation's 3 million Soviet Jews, and shipment of the unleavened bread from outside countries has been outlawed. The Jewish youth campaign calls for the sending of packages of matzos to the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C., with the hope that the USSR will permit the matzos to be shipped to Soviet Jews in time for Passover.

**Albany, N.J. (RNS)** — A State Supreme Court justice in Troy has voided the religious property tax exemptions given to hundreds of "mail-order ministers" of the Universal Life Church, and ordered the property to be returned to the tax rolls.

**Dallas (RNS)** — A Dallas television station has permanently cancelled Southern Baptist evangelist James Robison's weekly broadcast because of his continued criticisms of homosexuals.

**Heidelberg (RNS)** — Germany will soon have its first Jewish Theological Seminary since the end of World War II and the first in history authorized to grant degrees.

## Additions To Revival Listing

### Lauderdale

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
Daleville	April 13-15	Jesse Steele	Hugh T. Smith
Crescent Hill	April 15-20	Marcus Smith	Norman Arthur
Causeyville	April 22-25	Ron Mercer	Ron Mercer
Eastview	April 22-27	C. C. Arnold	Towfig Batarseh
Arkadelphia	April 27-29	The Gathering Group	T. Leon Adams
		from Ole Miss	

### Smith

Church	Date	Evangelist	Pastor
White Oak	April 22-27	Charles Steele	W.G. Dowdy

## Asks No Reimbursement

(Continued from Page 1)

Among the properties for which the Foreign Mission Board holds deeds are missionary residences, school and hospital properties, and church properties which were not transferred to the local congregations or the Baptist Convention in China.

American Baptist properties include school, hospital and church holdings in east, west and south China, a spokesman said. He noted that the ABC doesn't know how much of the \$2.5 million it will receive after the U.S. and China actually settle accounts.

The Foreign Mission Board and American Baptists also jointly hold title to a downtown office building in Shanghai and to properties of the University of Shanghai, jointly sponsored by the two denominations.

Many titles to church property were

turned over by Southern Baptists to the churches before mainland China fell to the communists, according to George H. Hays, board secretary for Asia. This action is in accord with board policy to transfer titles of church land and buildings to individual congregations or the national convention as Baptist leadership in a country matures and the convention shows itself financially capable of maintaining the property, he said.

Sometimes the message has to be blunt so you will see the point.

## RA Congress

### Set April 13-14

(Continued from Page 1)

Others on the program will be Larry Cox, Southern Baptist missionary to Africa and Bunny Martin, yo-yo champion.

Sporting events will include an RA state basketball tournament and a Crusader track and field meet.

Total cost per person is \$10. For reservations, write Brotherhood Department, Royal Ambassador Congress, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205. There is a registration fee of \$2.

Chuck Endsley, Pianist

## Conference Center Music Weeks Set

**NASHVILLE** — Staff relationships and interpersonal conflict for music ministers are two primary topics of church staff relationships conferences at Church Music Weeks this summer at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Conference Centers.

Church Music Leadership Conferences, June 16-22 and July 7-13 at Ridgecrest and Glorieta respectively, are sponsored by the church music department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. William J. Reynolds, secretary of the music department, will direct the conferences.

Motivation, working relationships, responsibilities and the role of the minister of music in the total staff picture will be included in the church staff relationships conferences, which will be directed by Reginald M. McDonough, secretary of the board's church administration department.

Wilbur Swartz, professor at New Orleans Seminary, will be the preacher at both locations. T. W. Hunt, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will lead sessions at both conference centers for people interested in mission opportunities in the field of music.

Seven Mississippi preachers and two song leaders were participants in a simultaneous revival crusade in 11 churches of the Olympic Association of Washington state March 18 to 25. All but two of the Mississippians were from Tishomingo Association. One was from Alcorn Association and one was from Jones Association.

Tom Ozbirn, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Belmont, was the Mississippi coordinator for the crusade. He was the evangelist for the revival at San Juan Baptist Church, Port Townsend, Wash., where Jeff Ware is pastor. Don McGregor, editor of the Baptist Record, was the song leader for that revival. The pastor's daughter, Cynthia Menke, of Eugene, Ore., was the instrumentalist.

G. D. Jones, pastor of Eastport Church near Iuka preached during the revival at Trenton Avenue Church in Bremerton. This church is pastorless. At Glenwood Church in Burley the

evangelist was Dave Smith, pastor of First Church, Burnsville. The Glenwood pastor is David Bellamy. Jack Maroon, pastor of First Church, Belmont, was the preacher for the meeting at Clear Creek Church in Silverdale. The pastor there is Fred Shufeldt.

At First Church, Pacific Beach the preacher was George D. Credille, pastor of Bethlehem Church, Tishomingo. The Pacific Beach Church is pastorless. Tommy Vinson, pastor of Oakland Church, Corinth, was the evangelist for the revival at First Church Allyn. Leading the music for that meeting was Truman Stockdale, a layman in Oakland Church. The pastor at Allyn is Tom Harmonson. For the revival at Aberdeen Avenue Church in Aberdeen the evangelist was Garland Eaves, pastor of Moselle Memorial Church, Moselle. The pastor is Pete Engle.

Nolan Mapp, pastor of Unity Church, Pascagoula, until about seven months ago, is now pastor of First Church Montesano, Wash. The evangelist for the revival there was Alton Webb of Oklahoma. At First Church, Port Orchard, the evangelist was James Bell of Oklahoma. The pastor is Bill Davis.

Leroy Cooper of Georgia was the evangelist at Artendale Baptist Church, where James Rouse is pastor. The church at Forks participated in the simultaneous crusade, but the pastor there, Jack Whitfield, obtained his own evangelist rather than working through the association.

Weldon Stevens, director of missions for the Olympic Association in Washington, has simultaneous revivals each year in his association. The crusade just finished began to be formed about a year ago when Stevens participated in a world missions conference in Alcorn and Tishomingo associations in Mississippi.

The Olympic Association is located on the Olympic Peninsula in the farthest northwest corner of the 48 states. The Association has 14 churches, only one of which is able to pay a full-time salary. That is First Church, Port Orchard. The other pastors are bivocational or have other sources of income.

Stevens said this group of evangelists was possibly the finest he has had as a group for the annual simultaneous effort. He said the churches had been strengthened beyond the effects of the revival crusade. Additionally, the Mississippi pastors expressed appreciation for having the opportunity to be a part of a Bold Mission Thrust effort in that

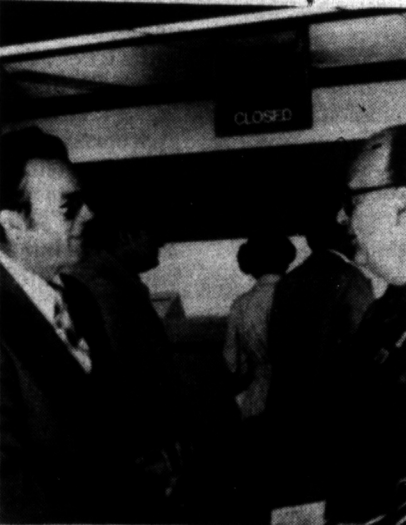
pioneer area and for having an opportunity to understand the needs that the area has with 90 percent of the people unemployed.



Four of the seven Mississippi pastors were the last to leave Washington following a simultaneous revival crusade in the Olympic Association. They are, left to right, Tommy Vinson, pastor of Oakland Church, Corinth; Dave Smith, pastor of First Church, Burnsville; Tom Ozbirn, pastor of Calvary Church, Belmont; and Jack Maroon, pastor of First Church, Belmont.



Doug Franklin, right, and his wife, Mary, bid their guest, Jack Maroon, goodbye at the Seattle airport following Maroon's participation in the simultaneous revival crusade.



David Bellamy, right, pastor of Glenwood Church, Burley, Wash., sees his evangelist off at Seattle following the simultaneous revivals. The visiting preacher is Dave Smith, pastor of First Church, Burnsville.

## Committee Asks Nominations For Stevens Successor

**COSBY, Tenn. (BP)** — The chairman of the search committee has issued a request for nominations for president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission to succeed Paul M. Stevens.

Anyone wishing to nominate a person for this office should write to Fred W. Isaacs, Box 666, Cosby, Tenn. 37722. Isaacs said all nominations should be in writing. He will not accept telephone suggestions.

The letter of nomination should give the candidate's history and present position. Anyone wishing to apply should follow the same procedure.

"In our effort to have input from all Southern Baptists we will consider every name that comes before us," Isaacs said.

Other committee members are George Miller, Oklahoma City; Jess Odum, Little Rock, Ark.; Franklin Perry, Laurel, Md.; and John Hughes, Independence, Mo.

## Shurden Will Lecture At MC

Walter Shurden, associate professor of Church History at Southern Seminary, will be the guest speaker for the Staley Lectureship at Mississippi College, April 9-11.

Shurden will speak at 10:00 a.m., Monday-Wednesday. His presentations are entitled "Receiving Yesterday," "The Problem of Authority in the Southern Baptist Convention," and "Handling Today."

The lectures are open to the public.



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# Dominate April Church Life

Thursday, April 5, 1979

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

## Five Fabulous Sundays

### April 1, 1979

#### New Sunday School Members

Adams — 33	Lauderdale — 55	Smith — 34
Alcorn — 17	Lawrence — No report	Sunflower — 9
Attala — 11	Leake — 19	Tallahatchie — 0
Benton — 11	Lebanon — 70	Tate — No report
Bolivar — 10	Lee — 84	Tippah — 8
Calhoun — 7	Leflore — 25	
Carroll — 17	Lincoln — 23	Tishomingo — 11
Chickasaw — 9	Lowndes — 8	Union — 3
Choctaw — 5	Marion — 40	Union County — 14
Clarke — 15		Walthall — 15
Clay — 5	Marshall — 18	Warren — 34
Copiah — 11	Mississippi — 27	Washington — 42
Covington — 2	Monroe — 33	Wayne — 10
	Montgomery — 5	Webster — 2
DeSoto — 6	Neshoba — 8	Winston — 7
Franklin — 17	New Choctaw — 9	Yalobusha — 0
George — 6	Newton — 6	Yazoo — 7
Greene — 7	Noxubee — 6	
Grenada — 5	Oktibbeha — 0	Total — 1581
Gulf Coast — 89	Panola — 29	
Hinds-Madison — 153	Pearl River — 34	
Holmes — 9	Perry — No report	
Humphreys — 0	Pike — 12	
Itawamba — 23		
Jackson — 95	Pontotoc — 12	
Jasper — 14	Prentiss — 14	
Jeff Davis — 2	Quitman — 11	
	Rankin — 24	
Jones — 106	Riverside — 40	
Kemper — No report	Scott — 42	
Lafayette — 24	Sharkey-Issaquena — 7	
Lamar — 3	Simpson — 21	

(Continued from Page 1)

tist Convention campaign to get the gospel message to every person in the nation by 1980 and have a New Testament congregation available to everyone in the country. Also Southern Baptists, under this same Bold Mission Thrust aegis, are attempting to make the gospel message available to everyone in the world by the end of the century.

Mississippi Baptist churches, by working at growth through revival and Sunday School enlargement, will make those goals that much closer to reality.

Good News Mississippi is an evangelistic campaign conducted jointly by the Mississippi Baptist Convention and five of the nine black Baptist conventions in the state.

Churches in each convention are holding revivals in their own communities, seeking in this specially set aside month to tell everyone about the relationship they can have with God through Jesus Christ. Witness training has been offered in a number of black and white churches and pastors are leading congregations into concentrated witnessing programs prior to the revivals.

The Good News Mississippi revivals were preceded March 23 by a rally at the Jackson Municipal Auditorium. Participants just about filled the ground floor seats and heard W. A. Criswell and Richard Porter offer messages of encouragement to state leaders gathered there.

Criswell is pastor of First Baptist

Church, Dallas. And Porter is president of the East Mississippi Baptist State Convention, and co-chairman along with Earl Kelly, of the Good News Mississippi committee. Kelly is executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The committee, composed of representatives from the various participating conventions, engineered the whole campaign including the rally and the idea for the simultaneous revivals.

A 100-voice choir resounded through the auditorium at the rally, punctuating the addresses by Criswell and Porter. The choir was led by Calvin Thomas of Mt. Helm Baptist Church in Jackson and by J. M. Wood of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson.

Porter, in a 20 minute message, told the crowd that God seemed to be saying that the people of this age have ruled out the leadership of the Holy Spirit, but that "if we are to do what we are proposing to do, we need the power of the Holy Spirit."

Porter said Baptists need to "come down off that tower," and go where the people are. . . . You can't go to your sanctuaries and think they're going there."

He said that in witnessing, "If you're afraid to talk to sinners, somebody needs to talk to you."

Criswell likened the Good News Mississippi campaigns to Peter being told by God to eat what Peter thought was unclean. He quoted Peter as saying what the modern equivalent has become, "We've never done that before."

Said Criswell, "That's our first response to a new approach or attitude."

He added that with Good News Mississippi, "We've got a new method, a new approach to deliver the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Said Kelly of the rally, "We now know that the same gospel is being preached all across the state in Baptist pulpits."

"Differences may exist between the black and white fellowships, but not

where theology is concerned," said Kelly. "It is wonderful to know that there can be unity in Christ without the imposition of union."

Nearly every Convention Board department has avoided scheduling meetings in April to allow the churches time and freedom to hold revivals and conduct enlargement campaigns.

Just over \$20,000 was appropriated by the participating conventions (with about \$10,000 from the Home Mission Board) to put on the rally and provide advertising coverage promoting the revivals.

With that money, ads have been placed in 90 Mississippi newspapers and 30-second spots have been purchased on 60 Mississippi radio stations, talking about the revivals. Also, some television ads were purchased.

To do the talking, Jerry Clower, Mississippi storyteller from Yazoo City was enlisted. He explained about the revivals in a down home manner that is certain to catch the ear or eye of virtually every person in the state.

Dakar, Senegal — Tracts were distributed in nine languages at the Dakar International Fair by Southern Baptist missionaries who had a booth for the third year in a row at the annual event. The missionaries and local Christians sold literature at minimum prices and gave a small gift with each purchase. The booth's theme centered on Jesus being the light of the world.

#### All-State Ringers Chosen

## Instrumentalists At First Festival And Handbell Ringers Give Concert

Both the Mississippi State Handbell Festival and the State Instrumental Festival were held at Mississippi College March 23 and 24.

Lloyd Mims, music specialist, Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, directed the instrumental festival in Nelson Hall. He said, "This first instrumental festival ever was a huge success. Instrumentalists had never seen the music they were to play, but they played it well."

He added, "The mass band was very balanced and we had instrumentalists cover all the parts. This is indicative of the growing emphasis being given to instrumental ensembles in our churches."

The 45 band instrumentalists represented eight churches. They played in the mass band under direction of Camp Kirkland, clinician, director of instrumental music at First Church, Jacksonville, Fla.

Ensembles and soloists played for adjudication. Superior soloist winners received \$25 scholarships to the Baptist summer music event of their choice. The winners were Tim Lemming, trumpet, McLaurin Heights Church, Pearl; Glenn Payne, trombone, McLaurin Heights; Carla Mooney, trombone, McLaurin Heights; Keith Holmes, tuba, First Church, Kosciusko; and Allison Alford, flute, Bolton Church.

The state handbell festival in the college coliseum drew 34 choirs from 24 churches with 420 total participants. It was required of choirs that six numbers be prepared beforehand.

Jesse Newcomer of Broadmoor Church, Baton Rouge, La., was guest clinician. Three out-of-state judges include R. E. Thompson, New Orleans, La.; David Lowe, Huntsville, Ala.; and Larry Shepherd, Decatur, Ala.

An All State Handbell Choir, a selected group of 20 ringers from 14 churches, had been chosen to perform in concert, directed by Perry Robinson, state handbell specialist, Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Members of the All State Handbell Choir are Gwen Buckley, Colonial Heights, Jackson; Jackie Coley, First, Starkville; Shawn Comfort, First,

New York (RNS) — CARE has announced a special "CARE Crusade for Children" campaign during the 1979 International Year of the Child (IYC) to expand programs for impoverished children. CARE has supplementary feeding programs reaching 25 million needy people, most of them children. The agency also operates agricultural expansion, food-for-work, school construction and other self-help programs.

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — The Carter Administration has submitted to Congress a major revision of the 1952 U.S. refugee laws which would raise the number of refugees admitted to the U.S. under normal procedures from the present figure of 17,400 to at least 50,000 a year.

Brandon; Janet Cooper, New Hebron; Rita Dobbs, First, Philadelphia; Carol Embry, First, Gulfport; Teresa Hindman, First, Louisville; Kathy Kay, First, Calhoun City; Nancy Kelly, Temple, Hattiesburg; Ben Norris, Salem, Collins; Joyce Spell, Broadmoor, Jackson; Carolyn Townsend, First, Belzoni; Patti Wall, First, Oxford; and Michael Woodard, First,

Coldwater. Alternates are Jan Allison, Broadmoor, Jackson; Phyllis Combs, First, Starkville; John Lewis, First, Starkville; Jane Little, New Hebron; Suzanne Norris, Salem, Collins, and Mary Perkins, First, Calhoun City.

Lunch was served in the cafeteria on campus for both festival groups. Then a joint concert was presented by the instrumentalists and handbell ringers.



Instrumentalists, top photo, and handbell ringers, bottom photo, presented a concert during the festivals March 24 at Mississippi College. All-State Handbell Ringers are standing at right.



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BR2

#### Senior Adults

(Continued from Page 1)

doctor, Glenn Pearson of Hattiesburg, and a pastor, Brooks Wester also of Hattiesburg, will be speaking on how each in his professional role can minister to the needs of senior adults. It is anticipated that there will also be a presentation on how social security becomes a partner with senior adults in retirement.

Jim Blakeney of First Church, Biloxi, will be conducting the fellowship activities. David Rogers of First Church, Greenville, and Kermit S. King will serve as program directors.

Afternoons are free for sight-seeing and recreation.

Total cost is less than \$50.00. It is \$49.75 per person with two per room or \$43.75 with three or four per room. A reservation fee of \$15.00 is required in advance. This fee applies to the total cost upon registration.

For reservations send \$15.00 per person to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Mississippi 39571.

## Pastor's Moustache Tickle Church Into Spontaneous Giving

At last week's prayer meeting, Curtis Burge, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenwood, brought his moustache in an envelope.

He'd gotten a lot of ribbing through the winter about how much better he'd look without it so after church supper and before the services started, he offered the shavings to the highest bidder. The proceeds he said, would go to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

When the bidding got way up past a dollar, Burge's wife, nicknamed "Butch," walked to the podium in the church's fellowship hall and emptied out her change purse.

Others got into the spirit of it and also donated to the offering for home missions. Total giving was \$42.80 — \$9.80 of it in coins.

The delta church's offering goal is \$7,000 with \$3,000 collected so far. Previous high total for the Easter offering was \$1,400, according to church secretary Diane Fleming.

## Commission Goes Stereo

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission recently dedicated a new radio studio which will enable the commission to eventually produce all of its seven major radio programs in stereo.

"It was a step we've needed to take for a long time," said Buddy Brown, technical supervisor/audio. "Many of the stations which carry our programs have been asking us to provide them with stereo tapes. This was something we had to do or many would have stopped using our shows. Also, AM radio stations across the nation have been anticipating a proposed switch from mono to stereo sound."

## Study Cruise Sets Dates

A Caribbean Mission Study Cruise will be leaving Jackson June 30 for seven days of study and sightseeing.

The cruise is sponsored by the Mississippi Brotherhood Department and requires a deposit fee of \$150 with reservations, no later than April 12 and final payment of \$1,045 by April 30.

Stops include San Juan, Puerto Rico; Caracas, Venezuela; Grenada, Barbados, and St. Lucia, all in the West Indies; and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

At each port of call, the group will visit with Southern Baptist missionaries, consult with Baptist leaders and visit interesting and historical sights.

Travel will be from Jackson to San Juan and the ship is the Cunard Countess.

Write Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

## MBS Signs For

(Continued from Page 1)

cated that the seminary has 1,324 persons enrolled in 22 centers in Mississippi. That breaks down to 192 ministers, 260 laymen, 506 women, 186 young people, and 169 children. 67 are on faculty.

The seminary, begun in 1942 is a cooperative venture of National and Southern Baptists in the state. Each group elects half the trustees for the seminary which exists to provide seminary training for black leaders.

At the seminary's 38th annual founder's day, March 29, L. V. Powell of Winona was speaker. He is pastor of First Baptist Church, Winona and dean of the Winona extension center.

Participants at the founder's day celebration donated \$6,100 toward the seminary building campaign.

## Singles Revival Retreat Features John Howell

"One Plus — A Single Aware," is the theme of the summer singles renewal retreat at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at Pass Christian.

The retreat, designed for singles, takes place July 6-8 featuring seminars on such topics as "Solo Parenting," "Insights into Intimacy," and "On Leaving but Still Loving Your Parents."

Sponsored by the Christian Action Commission, Bible study, led by Mrs. Margaret Hensley, is entitled "Jesus was a Single."

John Howell, dean of faculty and professor of ethics and family life at Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, will give several inspirational messages.

Cecil Harper, Mississippi music evangelist, will lead the music.

Other seminars at the meeting will be "Being a Winner: Personality Development," "Good Grief: Coping

with Loss," "Leading Single Adults in Bible Study," "Value and Decision Making," "God's Touch and Your Response," and "When Your Friend has a Drug Problem."

The program begins with supper Friday and ends with lunch Sunday.

For program information, write the commission at Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. For reservations, write Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. A registration deposit of \$15 per person applies to room and board.

## Tours To Smoky Mountains And Ozarks Involve Senior Adults

Tours this fall to the Arkansas Ozarks and the Tennessee-North Carolina Smoky Mountains have been

planned for Mississippi's Baptist Senior Adults according to Kermit S. King, consultant for Baptist Senior Adult Ministries and director, state Church Training Department.

The Chautauqua Tour to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center near Asheville, North Carolina, will take place Oct. 13-20. Growth from a beginning of one Chautauqua with an attendance of less than 300 just seven years ago to this year's five Chautauquas totaling 4,500 testifies to the growing popularity of this conference and its location.

In September a Senior Adult Vacation Tour will take those participating to Eureka Springs, Ark., primarily to view the Passion Play produced there each year. These dates are Sept. 17-22.

Information concerning each tour is available from Mississippi's Senior Adult Consultant, Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

## Cancer Claims America's 1978 Mother Of The Year

MEMPHIS (BP) — Mrs. Ellen Edens McCall, the 1978 America Mother of the Year, died at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis March 23 after an extended bout with cancer.

The 57-year-old Southern Baptist church and civic leader, wife of John W. McCall, Memphis physician, was buried in Memorial Park.

Mrs. McCall was the sister of David Edens, noted Christian counselor of Columbia, Mo.; daughter-in-law of the late Judge John McCall, long time chairman of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission; and sister-in-law of Duke McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.



Shirley

Hubbell



Nelson

Larrimore

## Pastor/Staff Development Retreat Set For Gulfshore

July 9-11 will be the dates for a Pastor/Church Staff Development Mini-week at Gulfshore. There will be special interest sessions for pastors, kindergarten/day care directors and teachers, ministers of education and youth, secretaries, and wives of staffers.

Bible study for the conference will be led by Harold Shirley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Talladega, Ala. Music leader will be Jackson based music evangelist, Tom Larrimore.

Macklyn Hubbell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Cleveland, will lead sessions on staff relationships. And Martha Nelson, a pastor's wife from Pelahatchie, will speak on the role of the Christian woman.

As many as eight hours of conference time will be in special interest conferences.

Special provisions are made for children and youths during sessions.

The program begins with registration July 9 at 10:30 a.m., and concludes July 11 at 11 a.m.

For program information write the sponsoring convention board department (Church Administration)/Pas-



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Bold Missions At Work . . .

## Olympic Peninsula Pastors Meet Challenge

The Olympic Peninsula of Washington State is an area of almost indescribable beauty. Its three water boundaries are the Pacific Ocean, the Strait of Juan de Fuca that separates Vancouver Island of Canada from the peninsula, and Puget Sound. From these waters the snow-crowned peaks of the Olympic Mountains on the peninsula are always in full view. In this area Association Director of Missions Weldon Stevens says he could start new work in 25 locations immediately and still not touch all of the needed places. The main deterrent to starting new work is a lack of personnel. A twin and inter-related problem is the lack of money.

Four Southern Baptist churches on the peninsula were left almost isolated from the world on Feb. 13 when the floating bridge over the Hood Canal near Seattle was blown down by winds of 100 miles an hour or more. The bridge was a multi-million dollar project when it was built several years ago. Its purpose was to give a direct access to the Olympic Peninsula from the remainder of the state.

Even so, a traveler from Seattle to the Olympic peninsula had to take a ferry to the Kitsap Peninsula in order to use the bridge. Still, the bridge cut travel time from Seattle to Port Townsend, Wash., by at least two

thirds. Now the journey must be made by going almost to the southern end of the sound on the mainland and then traveling up the peninsula on the other side of the sound.

The beauty of the peninsula is no more graphically illustrated than at the home of Jim Clayton, who grew up, as I did, in dry West Texas. He now lives on a small island on a bluff 70 feet above a beach. His glassed-in dining area and den look out over the beautiful blue expanse of Puget Sound. Water is abundant.

Jim Clayton is one of about 85 resident members of San Juan Baptist Church in Port Townsend.

This little church, on the very northeastern tip of the Olympic Peninsula, is one of the strongest in the association. The pastor is Jeff Ware, a retired Marine sergeant who is able to devote full-time to his ministry because of his retirement pay.

### Revival Meeting

A couple of weeks ago I was involved in a revival meeting in the San Juan Baptist Church. Tom Ozbirn, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Belmont, Miss., was the evangelist; and I was the song leader. We were a part of a simultaneous effort in the Olympic Association of Washington. For the most part, Mississippians were leading the revivals.

### Story on Page 2

There are many stories that could be told about the mission efforts there. Nolan Mapp is one. He is pastor of First Church, Montesano. He left a Mississippi church in answer to a call that was almost akin to the one Abraham heard. He went to the Olympic Peninsula to minister on a part-time salary, and he drives a school bus. Of the 14 churches, only one, First Church, Port Orchard, pays a full-time salary. The other pastors are either bi-vocational or have some means of supplemental income. Yet they are working in an area where 90 per cent of the population is unsaved.

### Hand in Glove

Ware moved into the situation about four years ago like a hand moving into a glove. Sunday School was running 15 to 20 when he arrived. Now the average is 60 to 70. It would be more, but there is no more space. He is typical of the type of person who can make an impact in the area. He moves about the town and out into the countryside with a sense of purpose. He is looking for Southern Baptists, for sure, for the church needs stability. He also finds those who desperately need a ministry such as three alcoholics and a 70-year-old lost man who were objects of specific visitation efforts and prayer during the revival. He had been wit-

nessing to them and ministering to them for some time before the revival began.

The church has no pianist. The Wares' daughter, Cindy, drove up from Eugene, Ore., to aid the revival effort in that capacity. While Ware casually mentioned that he believed she could handle the situation all right, the 24-year-old young lady turned out to be a very talented and capable musician.

Mrs. Ware also is a vital part of the ministry, and the pastor gives her a great deal of credit for his effectiveness.

The Wares are not northwesterners. They are from Texas and Arkansas, but they couldn't be pried away from there with a crowbar. The area needs many more like them.

The Lord mentioned this to Nolan Mapp, and he went out without having a church to go to. He missed one Sunday of preaching. He found one of the most needy mission fields on earth, and he was able to get there by automobile.

The area needs committed people. And it needs money. These are the essential ingredients of Bold Mission Thrust. Evangelism efforts on the Olympic Peninsula require boldness, and men such as Jeff Ware and Nolan Mapp are meeting the challenge head-on. — DTM



AND THEY SMOTE HIM ON THE HEAD WITH A REED (Luk. 23:30) AND DID SPIT UPON HIM (Luk. 23:30) AND MOCKED HIM AND LED HIM OUT TO CRUCIFY HIM (Luk. 23:32) — MARK 15:19-20

## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

### Pattie Dent

By Anne McWilliams

Mrs. Pattie Dent of Holly Springs was elected two weeks ago in Greenville as the 20th state president of the 101-year-old Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

"My goal," she said, "is to enlist every Baptist woman and youth in the state in missionary education." She added, "I am excited about WMU. It is so interesting to me that I can't see how any woman can resist it."

Her first involvement with a WMU organization, she said, was in YWA while she was a student at Mississippi State. Her first church job in it was as a Sunbeam leader when she lived at Corinth. From 1968 to 1974 she was associate WMU director for District 6. Now she is GA director and leader in her church, First, Holly Springs.

Her husband, Bob, is manager of the Wurlitzer Company in Holly Springs, which makes pianos. Neither Pattie nor her husband is a musician, but their son, Terry, is pianist for "Harvest," a traveling music group that originated at Mississippi College.

Because they have a son who is a missionary journeyman and a son who is on volunteer mission, the Dents were introduced with other parents of missionaries at the WMU Convention. Bob, Jr. is a journeyman in Voinjama, Liberia, where he teaches Old Testament and New Testament in a state school. Don and his wife, the former Ann Jones, are on a special nine-month project in International Baptist Church, Singapore. Don, a minister, will enter seminary when he returns to the States. He and Ann are career mission volunteers.

The new president was born Pattie Pate in Starkville, one of three children — two boys and a girl. Her father



died when she was still in high school. While her mother was housemother in a nurses' home, Baptist Hospital, Jackson, Pattie worked as secretary in the X-ray lab at the hospital. She and Bob (he is also from Starkville) were married in the nurses' home where her mother lived.

Nowadays, besides WMU work, Mrs. Dent likes to read and cook and do needlepoint, when she can find the time.

She said, "Woman's Missionary Union has meant so much to my life. I am grateful for the missionary education I have received through it, for it influenced my attitude toward my children going as missionaries. People have asked me how I can stand to see them go so far away, but I can answer that I gave them to the Lord a long time ago. I am just glad and grateful that He has called them and is using them. It thrilled me to be introduced as a mother of missionaries."

### Guest Opinion . . .

## Look To Jesus For Proper Attitude

by Su McLain  
Vicksburg

As one of the "weaker vessels" I would like to contribute a few thoughts to the ongoing discussion of women's relationships to the Lord Jesus Christ and to his male followers of today.

Our Southern Baptist Bible materials continually warn us of the problems of using "proof-texts." One such problem is that in lifting out a single verse or phrase one often obscures or alters the meaning of the larger passage in which the verse is found. Sometimes such a practice ignores the larger message of the New Testament itself.

On March 22, 1979, you printed an outstanding example of the "proof-text" method of Scripture use. This letter is an effort to answer with some words from the larger texts, and from the remainder of the New Testament and, more than that, from the Old Testament also.

The entire verse of 1 Peter 3:7, a phrase of which the writer used, reads: "Likewise, your husbands, live considerably with your wives, bestowing honor on the woman as the weaker sex, since you are joint heirs of the grace of life, in order that your prayers may not be hindered." Peter continues in verse 8 with a plea for all Christians to live in unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. The word brethren is consistently used through-

out the New Testament to refer to all the believers in a particular place.

One interesting characteristic of most "proof-text" usage is the frequency with which the "proof-texters" turn to the epistles, rather than to the words of the Lord Jesus to prove their points.

Regarding 1 Tim. 2:12-14 and 1 Cor. 14:34-35, we should let Jesus' words to the disciples on the subject of marriage, in Matthew 19:4-6, influence our understanding of the Pauline passages. Undoubtedly Jesus knew both Genesis passages on the Creation, but the Savior of women and men chose the text which says: "Haven't you read the Scripture? 'In the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and unite with his wife, and the two will become one.' So they are no longer two, but one. Surely, if ever there was an appropriate time for Jesus to issue an ultimatum about authority and submission based on order of creation, this was that time. The silence of our Lord on this subject should be instructive to us.

Still referring to the above Corinthian passage, if we read on through verses 11 and 12, we find "(Nevertheless, woman is not independent of man nor man of woman. And all things are from God.)" Paul's statement in verse 8 that woman is made for man, is Paul's reference to the Genesis 2 ac-

count of God's recognition of the loneliness and inadequacy of the man alone with no one like himself to provide fellowship. In Genesis 2:18, God said: "I will make him a helper fit for him." The Hebrew word which is translated helper is not the same as the word for servant. It is, however, the same word used to refer to God as the helper of His people.

Before making up our minds about 1 Timothy 3, we should read Paul's words in Romans: "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae." It is hardly likely that Paul would have commended someone who had violated a hard and fast rule intended for all time.

One hardly wonders that an itinerant Rabbi such as our Lord would select only men to accompany Him, considering the lack of suitable overnight accommodations in those days. However, Luke has not failed to tell us that in Jesus' band of supporters on his travels were some grateful women (Luke 8:1-3) "who provided for them out of their means." Surely Jesus would have sent these women home if He had objected to their presence. It's interesting, also, that Jesus chose to make His very first post-resurrection appearance to a group of women, at least one of whom was in that band of supporters mentioned by Luke.

The observation has often been made that in churches there are pro-

portionately more women and children than there are men. One cannot help but wonder if there might be a correlation between this smaller response by men and the fact that the call to Christian discipleship is a call to complete submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Women and children have had much practice in learning to be submissive.

Perhaps we could all learn what our proper attitude should be toward each other if we turn again to Jesus' words and example. He gently scolded the disciples for wanting to lord it over one another in the manner of the Gentiles. He told them that true greatness is rather to be found in becoming a servant of others, and that to become first in His Kingdom, one must become a slave of all. Jesus does not ask us to do that which He was unwilling to do first. Paul has given us a beautiful hymn to Jesus' greatness in Philippians 2:5-11. Jesus' spirit can serve as an example to us all.

The Baptist Record has tried to present all sides of what has turned out to be a rather lengthy discussion of women in ministry situations. The debate could go on because there must be many who would desire to make their views known. It is felt, however, that unless something develops in the near future to cause a change of attitude, this piece should conclude the published discussion for the time being. — Editor

## Letters To The Editor

### Popcorn Pulpit

Dear Editor:

I have read, with interest, the Baptist Record through the years. It is "the greatest," and one that Southern Baptists should be proud of. It's like a member of my family, and a very special one.

A few weeks ago, at First Baptist Church in Tupelo, I had the privilege of hearing an inspiring testimony given by Tim Nicholas. I'm sure the Baptist Record is happy to be associated with such a fine Christian young man, as their associate editor. May God continue to bless you, and Tim and all the wonderful people who have a part in bringing forth such a fine Christian paper to Southern Baptists.

A recent article of special interest to me was written by Tim Nicholas, entitled, "Tupelo Has a Popcorn Pulpit." The article was dear to my heart, for it was from the "popcorn pulpit" that we drifted into First Baptist Church of Tupelo. The drive-in-theater worship service is a branch ministry of First Baptist Church conducted by the pastor, Dr. Bill Rittenhouse. After the death of my husband, in search of happiness, we drifted into the drive-in worship-center. We became regular attendants, and loved it so much, we finally drifted into the First Baptist Church where we became regular visitors, and where I was recently led by the Lord to place my membership.

Tupelo First Baptist has the greatest man of God and the most wonderful group of Christians to be found anywhere. There just aren't any finer

people. "Brother Bill," as he is fondly called, is the most inspiring minister I've ever met.

I have yet to see a service pass in First Baptist without a profession of faith, coming by letter or statement, rededication, full time Christian service, or asking for prayer.

He has expanded the drive-in worship service at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday to a year round "church," instead of just a summer one.

My son and I travel a round-trip distance of 60 miles each Sunday to be in these services, and 120 miles when we attend night services also. We have battled all kinds of weather and high rising gasoline, but have never regretted it, for we always see Heaven opened up by his prayers and sermons. I have never witnessed a sweeter, greater faith.

Alma Isbell  
Amory

### Wrong Priorities

Editor:

I am a Baptist and I guess I'm prejudiced. I'm a member of Wade Baptist Church, and I know I'm prejudiced about that.

In your March 1 issue I was proud to see our pastor and church honored on the front page.

"Donnie Guy, pastor of Wade Baptist Church, Pascagoula, was awarded a silver 'Good News' pin." "Wade Church had the highest number of baptisms in the state for the church year."

Then I saw the second page with a picture of Gerald Castillo pastor of

Dundee Baptist Church receiving a plaque. The top 20 churches with net increases in Sunday School enrollment were honored at a luncheon. Dundee Church was the top church. This was at the Evangelism-Bible Conference in Meridian.

I think this is great and this church should be honored. I pray the Lord will continue to bless.

Unfortunately, I believe somebody has their priorities wrong. Sunday School is important, I don't deny that. But, a lot of people have their name on a Sunday School roll. How many have their name on heaven's roll. It's more important to me to have my name written in the "Lamb's Book of Life" than in any Sunday School roll book.

I am ashamed that we as Southern Baptists put more emphasis on numbers than we do on souls.

Mrs. George T. Washington  
Wade

### Pioneer Music Needs

Editor:

We have received a request for help in the area of music from Ovis Fairley, First Southern Baptist Church, Worland, Wyoming. His church needs a person this summer to work with the adult choir, organize children's choirs, and train leadership.

This person could be retired or a college student. He or she should have had experience in leading and training others in music. The church will help financially, but is limited in its contribution. Other help is available.

Anyone interested in this mission project should contact me im-

mediately. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

Perry G. Robinson  
Music Specialist  
Church Music Department  
Mississippi Baptist  
Convention Board

### Travel In Israel

Editor:

Last year when you published your interesting account of your Middle East trip in The Baptist Record, you made the true observation that tourists would like to see peace in that area. I am writing to you now that your good wishes are becoming a reality.

May I point out that devout Christians have been traveling to the Holy Land for almost two thousand years, regardless of conditions prevailing in the land, and during this period, there was hardly a dull moment (nor in the preceding thousand years). Over the last few years nearly one million Americans traveled to Israel; in 1978 alone there were 300,000 visitors. Those who did travel to Israel found it rewarding, inspiring, and secure, and they are telling of their experiences through every possible medium.

1979 will be one of the most momentous years in the long history of the Holy Land, the year when Israel and Egypt finally agreed to have Peace Tourists in Israel during this historical time to personally witness the Biblical prophecies being fulfilled and to have

the unique, exciting experience of walking in the exact spot "where it all began."

May I add that, to help ministers who are planning to travel to the Holy Land this year, a new practical handbook, "The Minister and his Ministry in the Book and in the Land," has been prepared and is available to ministers at no cost from our office at 795 Peachtree Street, Suite No. 635, Atlanta, Georgia, 30308.

Dov Kolani  
Director  
Southern Region  
Israel Government Tourist Office

### Legislation And Morality

Editor:

As the author of House Bill 174, which provides for criminal sanctions against the sexual exploitation of minors, I would like to take this opportunity to thank your paper and its many readers for the support given this important piece of legislation during the 1979 session of the Mississippi Legislature.

I am pleased to report that we have now been successful in gaining passage of this bill, and I can honestly say that the many phone calls and letters on its behalf from Southern Baptists throughout the State of Mississippi were instrumental in helping to insure its passage.

Thank you so much for your paper's leadership and outspoken support of this bill which is designed to improve the quality of life in our state.

Dennis Dollar  
Harrison County

Wide Pictures. The chapters deal with Jesus' love, forgiveness, His daily presence, birth, life and ministry, cross, resurrection, and return. The book includes an author index.

OVER 100 "BETTER IDEAS" by Billy Zeoli (Fleming H. Revell, \$5.95, 128 pp.) When Gerald Ford became vice-president, his friend Billy Zeoli started sending him a memo each week which he called, "God's Got a Better Idea." Throughout the time he was vice-president and then president, Ford continued to receive a weekly devotional comment from Zeoli. This book is a collection of the messages to the 38th president. The messages contain biblical suggestions for Christian conduct in the business world — how to use God's Word practically in management and executive roles. They stressed the importance of a proper balance of work-time and family-time, and offer guidance in moral decision-making. Zeoli is president of Gospel Films, Muskegon, Michigan.

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Don McGregor Editor  
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor  
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

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Bill Causey President  
Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Baptist Building  
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Gary Hol-  
land, Pascagoula; Odean Puckett, Natchez; Lewis  
Sewell, Oxford; Claude Sutherland, Jackson; Be-  
verly Timin, Meridian; Clarence Wilkinson, Clin-  
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# Home Board Names Two Directors And Appoints Five Missionaries

ATLANTA (BP) — James Nelson has been named director of the division of associational missions at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Nelson, 54, a member of the Home Mission Board staff for five years, was one of three persons elected to the staff during the board's spring meeting. Directors also appointed five missionaries and nine US-2 missionaries and approved 12 mission pastors for church pastoral aid, a salary supplement from the board's church extension department to allow a new mission congregation to have a fulltime pastor who will lead them to self support.

Directors named Royce C. Williams, 47, a retired U.S. Army colonel, as administrative assistant in the chaplaincy division and Howard H. Ramsey, 50, as director of witness training in the department of personal evangelism.

Nelson replaces Loyd Corder, who resigned as division director last July to accept a post as assistant to the director of the missions section. He will oversee work of the division, which includes the departments of associational administration services, rural-urban and metropolitan missions.

Nelson has served as director of the department of rural-urban missions since 1975. Previously, he was director of missions ministries for the Baptist Convention of New Mexico, and home missionary on the Navajo Reservation in New Mexico. The graduate of Samford University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has also been a pastor in Alabama, Mississippi and the Canal Zone.

Williams, a native of Georgia, comes to the newly-created chaplains' division after retirement from the United States Army. In his last post, he was adjutant general readiness coordinator at the Headquarters of Army Readiness Region IV at Fort Gillem, Ga. He also has served in personnel and intelligence with the army. He is a

graduate of North Georgia College and Northeastern University.

Directors created the position to which Williams was elected during the board meeting to allow other chaplaincy division personnel additional time in the field. They also created but did not fill a position for an associate director of personnel development services to assist the director, Charles Hancock, in providing services to board staff and appointed missionaries.

Ramsey, director of evangelism for the Northwest Baptist Convention, Portland, Ore., fills a post vacated earlier this year with the resignation of Robert Reccord. As director of witness training, he will develop and implement strategies, services and materials for use in churches, associations and state conventions to train people in witnessing skills.

He is a native of Texas and has been a pastor, director of missions and state staffer in the northwest since 1964. He also has been pastor of several churches in Texas and is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Missionaries appointed were Stephen Aycock of Garden City, Kan., Alcides and Frances Guajardo of San Antonio, Texas, and Richard and Debra Hagar of Tulsa, Okla.

The nine US-2ers, although approved for service, will not begin their two-year missions term until August 15, 1979. They are Deborah Belew of Aiken, S. C.; Tina Fogle of San Bernardino, Calif.; Patrick Herlihy of Williamsburg, Ky.; James Hook of Louisville, Ky.; Mark Kelly of Skiatook, Okla.; Gene Kimbrough of Othello, Wash.; Pamela Kay Martin of Winnsboro, La.; William Mead of Tampa, Fla.; and Mark Walters of Huron, S.D.

Aycock will continue to serve in Garden City, where he has been director of Christian social ministries for the Western Kansas Association since

October 1978. Previously, Aycock, a native of Russellville, Ark. was director of Christian social ministries for two years in Dodge City, Kan. He is a graduate of Samford University and holds a master of divinity degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as a student intern for the Home Mission Board.

The Guajardos will serve in San Antonio, Texas, where he will be assistant dean of evening administration for the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute. Previously he was associate director for the El Paso and Corpus Christi Baptist Associations and formerly taught and directed in-service training at the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute. A native of Pharr, Texas, Guajardo has also served as pastor of several Texas churches. He is a graduate of the University of Corpus Christi and holds a master of divinity degree from Southwestern.

Frances Romero Guajardo, a native of Mineral, Texas, works as a kindergarten teacher part time for the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute and since 1976 has been director of the Spanish literacy program for Texas, also part time.

The Hagars will serve in Tulsa, Okla., where he will be director of Christian social ministries for the Tulsa Baptist Association. Prior to appointment, Hagar earned a master of religious education degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and worked as a student intern for the Home Mission Board at the Baptist Good Will Center in Fort Worth. A native of Waynesville, Mo., he is a graduate of Baylor University and holds a master of science in social work degree from the University of Texas.

Debra Phillips Hagar, a native of Mexico, Texas, is a substitute teacher in the Tulsa public schools. She is a graduate of Baylor University and has also worked as a speech therapist, day camp counselor and in sales and office work.

Ms. Belew will serve in Sylva, N. C., where she will participate in resort missions. She is a South Carolina native and a graduate of the University of South Carolina.

Ms. Fogle will work in Hot Springs, Ark., in resort missions. She is a California native and a graduate of California Baptist College. In 1978 she served as a summer missionary in Hawaii.

Herlihy will serve in San Diego, Calif., in student work. He is a Kentucky native and graduate of Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky. He served for three years as a summer missionary.

Hook will serve in Myrtle Beach, S. C., in resort missions. A South Carolina native, he is a graduate of the Baptist College at Charleston and has begun work toward a master of religious education degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His wife, Regina, chose not to be appointed.

Kelly will serve in Chicago, Ill., in student work. He is an Oklahoma native and graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and has attended the divinity school of the University of Chicago.

Kimbrough will serve in Minneapolis, Minn., in student work. He is a graduate of Utah State University and is a native of Washington state.

Ms. Martin will serve in Cincinnati, Ohio, in student work. She is a Louisiana native and a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University. During the summer of 1977 she was a summer youth director in Crossett, Ark., and during 1978, a church starter in Baton Rouge, La.

Mead will serve in Wilmington, N.C., in resort missions. He is a Florida native and a graduate of the University of South Florida.

Walters will serve in El Portal, Calif., in student work. He is a South Dakota native and graduate of South Dakota State University. In 1976, he served as a summer missionary in Ketchikan, Alaska, and in 1978, in Bozeman, Mont.

Thursday, April 5, 1979

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



## Security For Gulfshore

Freddie Cook, maintenance supervisor at Gulfshore Assembly, stands beside a guardhouse he designed and built at the entrance to Gulfshore. The guardhouse will be the base of operations for security people to enable them to keep a watch on the gate and also be able to monitor activity on the grounds. The completed building will cost about \$3,500, Cook said. Estimates for architects' fees and construction costs with a contractor were \$10,000. Cook said Carl Dubisson and Edward Dedeaux of his staff helped with the construction.

## Family Will Survive; The Church Can Help

(Continued from Page 1)

retardation, or leprosy," urged the church toward a broader acceptance of singleness.

Divergent opinions were presented in a "dialogue" between anti-Equal Rights Amendment leaders Phyllis Schlafly and Harvard theologian Harvey Cox on the impact of the women's movement on family life.

Schlafly proclaimed that the fruits of ERA would have "devastating effects on moral, legal and economic integrity of the family unit." Schlafly, who was given a courteous but mixed response by the seminar participants, declared that the women's liberation movement "inculcates women with an interiority complex" by destroying their self-esteem and casts men in the role of the "enemy."

Cox, on the other hand, expressed support for the ERA, but admitted some disillusionment with the "distortions" in the women's movement. He said the women's movement "is too timid, not quite cosmic enough, not sufficiently sweeping in its goals" and called for a broader view of liberation of women than ERA.

Basing his observations on the Bible, Cox declared, "I believe God created men and women to live in a mutual submission. We see around us distortion and alienation which results from sin. We don't have to opt out of being male or female to savor the original concept of God's plan for mutuality between the sexes."

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of Houston's South Main Baptist Church, said Charles Petty of Raleigh, N.C., who declared Baptists should turn to the resources of government to help troubled families, may still be "at first blush in the governor's mansion" by making that assertion. Six months earlier, Petty left his position with the North Carolina Baptist Christian Life and Public Affairs Council to direct N. C. Gov. James Hunt's office of citizen affairs.

Responding to his former professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Petty, who actively supports ministry of the local church and said he does not view government as the solution to all family problems, declared: "Government, left to itself, is demonic," but it is "ordained by God." Baptists, he said, have often left the arena of politics and government to others.

District Court Judge Oswin Chrisman of Dallas, Texas, a member of the same panel featuring Petty and Chafin, entered the discussion, declaring that Baptists "are inhibited by a silent pulpit" in the area of family life.

Chrisman, a Baptist layman, also chided fellow Baptist laymen and pastors for sending their children to private religious schools to avoid the problems of public schools, including desegregation. The time has come for "pastors to stop leading the backward

retreat and come into the 20th century."

Both Chafin and Petty spoke bluntly about their perceived failure of individual Baptists, Baptist organizations and churches to come to grips with an effective ministry to the beleaguered family.

Action in developing worthwhile marriage relationships was the subject of four of the speakers.

David Edens, who directs the marriage and family program at Stephens College, Columbus, Mo., identified communication, companionship, domesticity, vocational compatibility, celebration and sexual satisfaction as key ingredients to a happy marriage. happy marriage.

Internationally-known marriage and family expert David Mace of Winston-Salem, N. C., joined Edens in urging that marriage couples learn to handle anger positively.

In fact, Mace asserted that the failure of marriage always takes place because husband and wife "have been unable to achieve mutual love and intimacy" and that failure to achieve that "is almost always due to the inability of the persons concerned to deal effectively with anger."

He gave a prescription for dealing with anger, which involves "dissolving it" in a loving team approach, rather than venting it or suppressing it in a way which will cause "the inner core of love to wither."

There is nothing in the world so much like prayer as music is. — William Pierson Merrill

## Hawaii Baptists Elect First Woman Editor

Sue Nishikawa, associate editor of the Hawaii Baptist for the past 10 years, was elected editor of the paper, succeeding Edmond Walker, the Hawaii Baptist Convention's executive secretary - treasurer, who will remain in that post.

Mrs. Nishikawa, a native Hawaiian and graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, also serves as Woman's Missionary Union director for Hawaii Baptists.

She is believed to be the first woman elected as a permanent editor of a Southern Baptist state paper, although several have served as interim or acting editors.



## SBC Business Officers Urge ERISA Changes

DALLAS (BP) — About 180 church and agency business officers agreed to support congressional legislation to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) of 1974 — the federal pension law.

"We approve and support the efforts of members of the Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA to clarify the ERISA 'church plan' definition," the business officers resolved at their 17th annual conference.

The Southern Baptist Annuity Board hosted the two-day conference, which focused on pension funds, records and risk management.

The legislation is supported by the

Church Alliance, a group of more than 25 religious denominations which represent their denominations' pension programs.

Identified as HR 1576, 1577 and 1578, the legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Barber Conable, R-N.Y. Similar legislation is expected to be introduced in the Senate by Herman Talmadge, D-Ga., and Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex.

The legislation is intended in part to amend the federal pension law's definition of "church plan" so as to allow it to recognize traditional church retirement programs which cover both agency and church employees.

## President Attends First Baptist Church, Elk City

ELK CITY, Okla. (BP) — It was just a regular Sunday morning worship service March 25, at First Baptist, Elk City — with some few exceptions.

Those few exceptions were contained among visitors that included Jimmy Carter, about 75 secret service agents, a few hundred other law enforcement officers, and crowd of local and national news media.

The president attended Sunday School and worship services during the visit to Elk City, Okla., for the eighth in his series of town meetings held around the country.

John W. Dugger, pastor, preached a sermon from II Timothy 1:7-12 entitled "God's Keeping Power."

The pastor's wife, Mary, sat next to the president. The Duggers' sons, James, 7, and Mark, 5, were next to their mother. During the service, James reached past his mother and that he would be also in Sunday School. "I'm glad to meet you."

A. B. Lowry, retired building contractor, taught the Sunday School class Carter attended. He didn't know the president would be in his class until Saturday night.

Carter's original schedule called for him to attend the worship services only, but he revealed Saturday night that he would be also in Sunday School. "I was a little shaky Saturday night,"

Lowry revealed.

"But Sunday morning after he came in and we had prayer, I relaxed and taught the lesson. We had a better attendance than usual. We've been running about 15 but Sunday we had 25 there," Lowry said. "I didn't ask him to participate, but Mr. Carter quoted a scripture which related to our lesson."

### Adversity

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small (Proverbs 24:10). All days can't be rosy; into each life problems and sorrows will come. We don't want to ask the Lord to take them from us but rather pray for judgment and a way out of adversity into the open path of sunshine.

How many people do you know who've turned their bad luck into good? Suppose they had "fainted" in the day of adversity?

You have nothing to gain if you give in to your feelings and all to gain if you keep on plugging your way through to victory — victory over self, victory over circumstances that lead you onward, upward to an inner peace and joy, that helps you to come through whatever happens. The darkest part of the day is the hour just before the dawn. Remember an hour is only 60 minutes and goes forward, making a new day. — Lena Scott Price.



BUSINESS OFFICERS — W. Dean Willis of Dallas, Texas, seated, controller at Buckner Baptist Benevolences, is serving as general chairman of the Southern Baptist Business Officers Association during 1979. Other officers include, from left: A. L. Nelson of Jackson, Mississippi, chairman of state conventions; Arlis Hinson of Shreveport, Louisiana, chairman of churches; Lynette Oliver of Memphis, Tennessee, chairwoman of SBC agencies; Ruth Anders of Brownwood, Texas, chairwoman of educational institutions; and Janie Neal of Dallas, Texas, secretary-treasurer. — (BP) Photo

## Volunteers Needed For Mini-Mission To Madrid

In response to a request from Indy Whitten, Mississippi missionary to Spain, three churches from as many states have joined in cooperative sponsorship of an overseas work project which may involve as many as 40 lay volunteers. In addition to volunteers from the sponsoring churches — First Baptist Church, Monahans, Tex.; First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla.; and Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. — volunteers from Mississippi will be among those going on the May 31-June 8, 1979 assignment from the Foreign Mission Board. Martha Nelson of Pelahatchie will direct the venture.

Twenty women, including home economics professionals with group supervisory experience, seamstresses and helpers are needed to sew curtains and drapes for the new facility recently occupied by First Baptist Church, Madrid.

Age level workers for planning, and men and women with crafts and carpentry skills are needed for equipping and furnishing the nursery, preschool and children's departments. The Madrid congregation celebrates the formal inauguration of the new building May 6, after meeting for two years in a borrowed building. According to Mrs. Whitten, "It has taken every cent the congregation could scrape up just to put up the building."

In addition, men are needed for renovation and repair work in other churches and missions in the city.

The Madrid missionaries also plan to utilize volunteers in the distribution of information about the Bible Correspondence Course, and all who enroll have been invited to send brief personal testimonies for translation and duplication, to be distributed while visiting in Spain.

The Mission is arranging a number of people-to-people contacts for the volunteers, including a business and professional men's breakfast, dining in small groups in the homes of Spanish families, demonstration of Spanish cookery in other Spanish homes and a recipe exchange, a spiritual retreat with English-speaking military and civilian members of Immanuel Baptist Church, and a city-wide WMU rally.

Kathy McNair, also a Mississippi missionary in Madrid, asked that the group bring rhythm instruments such as sticks, triangles etc. (not available there) for her children's musical group.

For further details, Mississippi volunteers may contact James Cecil, associate consultant, Laymen Overseas Division, Foreign Mission Board, who is coordinating the work project, no later than April 15.

## Nine-Man Mission Team Builds Store, And Preaches In Oriente, Ecuador

Billy W. Baker, pastor, West Shady Grove Church, Eupora was one of a nine-member mission team who spent two weeks recently in Ecuador. These men were volunteers who paid their own way, with help from interested friends. The mission was sponsored by the Agricultural Missions Foundation.



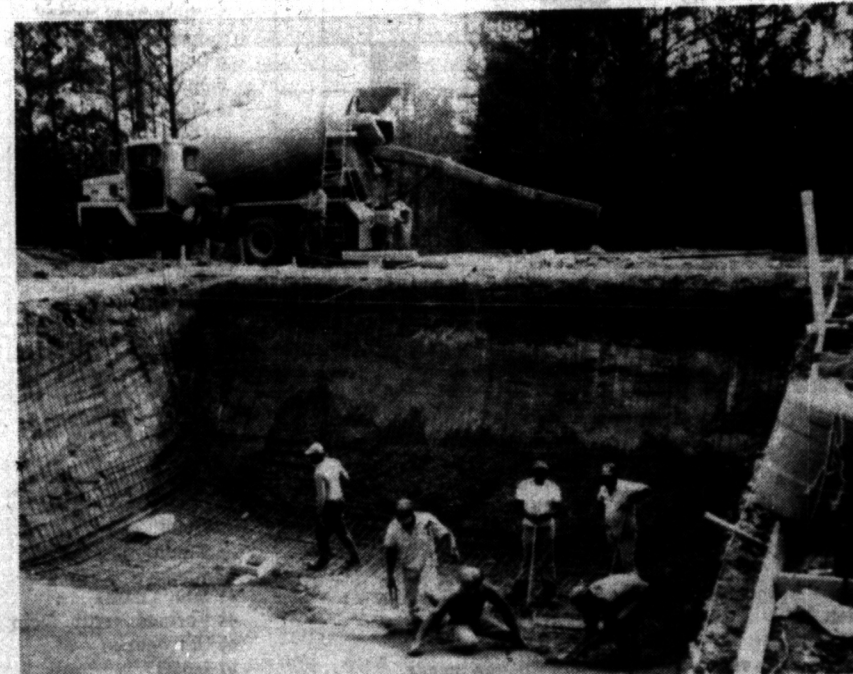
Baker

The men spent two days in Quito and drove nine hours over and through the mountains to their work site near Oriente. They took quarters in an outpost built by another mission group, crossed the river in dugout canoes and traveled 15 miles to work. The work site was a 125-acre farm operated by the Agricultural Missions Foundation as a demonstration farm for row crops and livestock.

The team built a cooperative store to supply local church groups with items

hard to get. They also built a house for the storekeeper. One of the men overhauled a diesel tractor which was a mission gift earlier from someone from Mississippi.

Baker reported that the men also had opportunities to involve themselves in Christian witness. They attended a tent revival where one of the team members preached; they traveled 30 miles down the river to two Indian villages and met with some Southern Baptist missionaries.



## Swimming Pool For Central Hills

Progress is being made in the construction of the State Royal Ambassador Camp, at Central Hills Baptist Retreat in Attala County. Shown here are scenes of the swimming pool now under construction. The pool, being built by Commercial Pool Specialists of Jackson, is 35' x 82' plus an additional 20' x 30' area for smaller boys. According to W. Levon Moore, Chairman of the Development Committee, the pool is expected to be completed within approximately thirty days.



# Just For The Record...



CAROLYN WEATHERFORD, right, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention, visited with local WMU leaders before a luncheon at First Church, Starkville, of the Oktibbeha County Association WMU. From left are Jean Day, vice president of Baptist Young Women at First Baptist; Greta Lloyd, county WMU director; and Ann McWilliams, First Baptist WMU director. Miss Weatherford spoke to the Brotherhood of First Church, Starkville during a regular Sunday morning breakfast. Also she spoke during the morning worship service March 4. — (Staff photo—Carter)



PASS ROAD CHURCH, GULFPORT, has erected a new sign, SHAKING THE GATES OF HELL, on Highway 49 — just north of Gulfport, in conjunction with Pass Road Church's "REACH OUT AND TOUCH" campaign. The sign features the pastor, Richard D. Edwards, while preaching, in five dimensions.

## Don Francisco Will Appear In Concert At Hillcrest



Don Francisco, a musical poet and preacher, a minstrel with a message, "a singer of contemporary gospel ballads," will be in Jackson, Sunday, April 8 at 7 p.m. for a concert at Hillcrest Church. Hillcrest is in South Jackson at 3102 Monticello Drive off Woody Drive.

Francisco takes Biblical truths and weaves them into stories with his songs.

Since October of 1978, he has appeared in concert with the Bill Gaither Trio in many of the major cities across the United States. He is featured on the

cover of the April issue of Contemporary Christian Music Magazine. In August of this year, he will participate in the Mississippi Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference.

Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Francisco grew up the son of a preacher. His father was also a seminary professor who taught Old Testament and Hebrew.

The latest Don Francisco album "Forgiveness," contains "one of the best folk gospel ballads of all time," "He's Alive."

Recently performed by Richard Roberts on the Oral Roberts Spring Special, "He's Alive" is the story of Christ's Resurrection from the apostle Peter's point of view. Number one on the charts all across the country (including number one for six months on Nashville's home Christian Stations, WWGM, "He's Alive" requires the listener's full emotional attention.

Other songs from *Forgiveness* that are getting a considerable amount of air play include "Jesus Is Lord Of The Way I Feel," "I Don't Care Where You've Been Sleeping" (son of the Prodigal Son), "Jehosaphat," and "Adam, Where Are You?" Francisco's music emphasizes the positive power of God's love.

The youth of North Winona Church recently held a rock-a-thon to help raise money for their summer trip to the Passion Plan in Eureka Springs, Ark. The young people, under the direction of Gregg Thomas, minister of music and youth, raised over \$1,100 in the event which lasted from 6 p.m. on March 16 to 6 a.m. on March 17. One of the young people, Kristy Bailey, raised more than \$225. Thomas said that the young people will be involved in a youth choir musical this summer. They have a Youth Discipleship Club and monthly youth fellowships. Youth Week at the church will be May 20-27. Youth Sunday will be May 27. Eugene Barnett is pastor.



Sunday, March 4, was a special day in the life of Calvary Church, Waynesboro. Calvary celebrated its 30th anniversary and the pastor, Alben Gaston's first.

Dinner was spread in the fellowship hall. On the head table was a 30-lb. cake baked by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lauront, pictured. It was topped with a cross representing Christ, red roses representing the head, hands, heart, and feet, and the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the Resurrection. The 12 roses on the corners represented the 12 Apostles, and to remind Christians to go to the four corners of the earth witnessing. The 100th Psalm written on the cake was to remind those present to rejoice.

Calvary has baptized 732 during 30 years.

Ridgecrest Church, Lebanon Association, observed Baptist Men's Day on March 25. Speakers for the morning service were Jimmy Morris, Wayne Smith, and Ben Davis. Speakers for the evening service were Donald Anderson and W. B. Wooten. An all men's choir sang at each service. Odell Tebo is the pastor.

## First Woman SBA President At Clarke



When Robin Polk (right) of Prentiss succeeded to the presidency of the Student Body Association this semester at Clarke College, she became the first woman student to hold the office of SBA president in Clarke's history.

Robin was elected vice-president for the 1978-79 school year with Doug Broome of Terry being president. Broome completed his Clarke work at the end of the first semester and has entered Mississippi College. Johnnie Cook (left) of Newberry, Florida, was elected to fill the vice-president's post for the spring semester.

Miss Polk, who was earlier this year chosen "Miss Clarke College" in student elections, has been on the President's List each semester she has been at Clarke. She has been in the Clarke Beauty Pageant each year and was chosen fourth alternate in the most recent pageant.

Cook, who plans a career in agriculture, was one of the "Beaus" in the pageant and was elected "Friendliest Man" in campus elections earlier this year.

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## Texas Choir Will Sing At Broadmoor

The youth choir of First Church of Richardson, Tex. will present a concert on Monday, Apr. 9, at 7:30 in Jackson, at the Broadmoor Church. The choir is composed of 160 members, 120 of whom are on a seven-state tour through the Southeastern part of the United States.

The concert the choir presents is a variety of sacred music from the classics to modern day folk styles. Four ensembles, solos, and a handbell choir are all a part of the concert.

Bill Green, minister of music of the church, is the director of the tour. The public is invited to the concert.

David R. Grant is pastor at Broadmoor. J. M. Wood is minister of music.

## N. O. Alumni Will Meet In Houston

Alumni from throughout the world will gather at the Houston Oaks Hotel in Houston June 13 for the annual meeting of the Alumni Association of the New Orleans Seminary.

The assembly will take place in the Grand Ballroom of the hotel during the annual gathering of the Southern Baptist Convention, being held this year in Houston at The Summit. The luncheon is to begin at 12:30 p.m., with outgoing Alumni Association president Lionel Crowell presiding.

More than 700 persons are expected to attend the meeting. Advance ticket sales for the luncheon will begin soon, according to alumni officials.

## Baptist Is Named Pilot Of Year

Bernard Threet of Cleveland has been named state Pilot of the Year by Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association. The association held its annual conference in Jackson in February. Threet and his wife, Marie, are residents of Cleveland, where both are active members of First Baptist Church.

Threet received the award "because of the quality of his work for farmers, the least amount of damage done to non-targeted crops, for going the most years with the fewest accidents, and because of his respect for everyone and all customers, as well as being an excellent pilot."

Threet was born and reared in Bolivar County and graduated from Shelby High School. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Threet, live on their farm near Shelby.

Threet is chief pilot for Hollingsworth Flying Service, Inc. Flying is his hobby as well as his occupation.

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14	3,429.70	1,714.85

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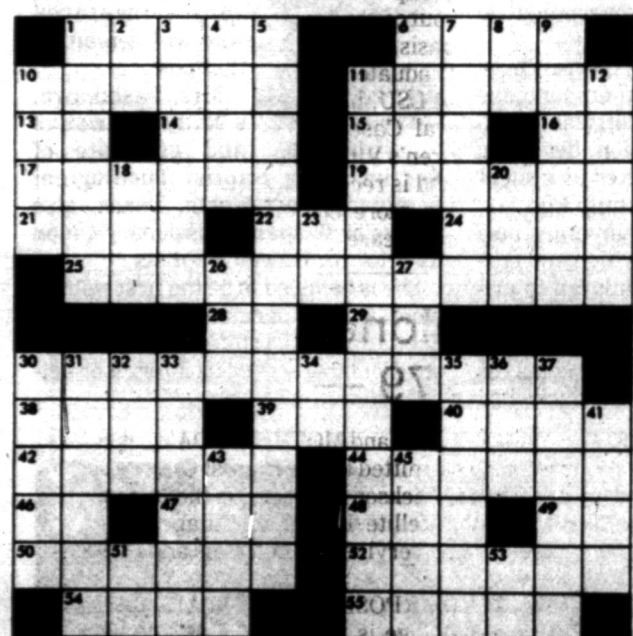
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Matt. 20:1-16 "Parable of the Laborers"  
**DR. JERRY FALWELL**  
Romans 12:13 "The Day Is at Hand"  
Luke 5:1-10 "Living by Faith"  
**DR. BAILEY SMITH**  
Joshua 3:13,17 "Stand Firm in Jordan"  
Acts 8:26-35 "Leaving Church Disappointed"  
**MANLEY BEASLEY**  
Ephesians 2:10; Psalm 139:16; John 19:28  
"Becoming What You Are"  
Romans 7:1-4,18 "We Must Face the Law"  
**JACK TAYLOR**  
2 Kings 6:1-7 "This One Thing I Do"  
"Give and It Shall Be Given You"  
**DR. ADRIAN ROGERS**  
2 Kings 13:19-21 "A Memorial to the Man of God"  
1 Kings 8:27 "Where on Earth Does God Live?"  
**DUDLEY HALL**  
Malachi 3:1-6 "What Happens When Revival Comes?"  
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### ACROSS

- 1 Ness, et al
- 6 Clover and alfalfa
- 10 "earrings, and —" (Num. 31: sing.)
- 11 "greater and — than we" (Deut. 1)
- 13 Exist
- 14 Money of account
- 15 Lamp fuel (Matt. 25:3)
- 16 Verso: abbr.
- 17 Purge out the old (1 Cor. 5:7)
- 19 "the — of the aliens" (Heb. 11)
- 21 — on point
- 22 Pigeon pea: var.
- 24 Eagle

- 25 "Thy — hath deceived" (Jer. 49)
- 26 Peace-keeping org.
- 29 Continent: abbr.
- 30 "the — hath sent me" (John 6)
- 36 Ancestor of Jesus (Matt. 1:3)
- 39 Derby or fedora
- 40 Ethyl: comb. form
- 42 "— life" (Luke 8:9)
- 44 "they are not all —" (Rom. 9)
- 46 Printer's measure
- 47 Fish
- 48 A Chonan people
- 49 Asian tree

- 50 Famous rider
- 52 English naval hero
- 54 Indian jute
- 55 Passover dinner

### DOWN

- 1 Weep's partner (John 16:20)
- 2 Inward: prefix
- 3 Herb
- 4 In this place
- 5 "There be some —" (Matt. 18)
- 6 "clothed with camel's —" (Mark 1)
- 7 "Judgment came upon —" (Rom. 5)
- 8 Color: abbr.
- 9 Numbers
- 10 Measure of bricks (Ex. 5:18)
- 11 "made known —" (Rom. 16)
- 12 Flowers
- 13 Consumed
- 14 Anger
- 15 Jewish month
- 16 "Ye did — well" (Gal. 5)
- 17 Dine
- 18 Newer
- 19 Pressed
- 20 Vessel: anat.
- 21 "all the graves —" (Mic. 1)
- 22 Note of the scale
- 23 "Then an — cried aloud" (Dan. 3)
- 24 Timetable: abbr.
- 25 Rhetoric teacher
- 26 Man's name
- 27 Various: comb. form
- 28 Old weapon
- 29 Letter
- 30 Direction: abbr.

### CRYPTOVERSE

D BVVA KDI VHPDOIJPL ZDTVGV VZ

PLJ SVWA

Today's Cryptoverse clue: Z equals F

(Answers on P. 7)



# Names In The News . . .

Van Simpson, manager of the systems department of the Sunday School Board, has been elected president of the Southern Baptist Computer Users Association, succeeding Ted Williams, director of aging for the North Carolina Baptist Convention.

The executive board of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey has elected Harold Crane as the board's missions division director, effective May 1. Crane, a native of New Jersey, has served as missions director for the Michigan Convention for the last eight years.

Donald West was ordained to the ministry on Feb. 18 at First Church, Union. A native Mississippian, he is interim pastor of Calvary Church, West Lafayette, Ind., where he has been involved in student work at Purdue University. Previously employed by Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and the Foreign Mission Board, S.B.C., West graduated from Southern Seminary last year with a Master of Divinity degree.



The members of Blackwater Church, Kemper-Neshoba Association, recently said goodbye to Shelba and Carey Myers and their five children as they departed for Pontotoc. Their pastor, Curtis M. Dyer, Jr., left, presented farewell gifts during a recognition service. A reception was held for the family in the Fellowship Hall.

Carey, a former deacon at Blackwater, has been licensed to preach the gospel. He is available for supply in the Pontotoc area, and can be contacted at his temporary address: 134 Montgomery Street, Pontotoc, Ms, 38863 (phone: 489-1268).

Kate (Mrs. W. Buren) Johnson, emeritus missionary to China and Indonesia, died March 12 at the North Carolina Baptist Home, Winston-Salem. She was 81. Funeral services were to be held March 15 at First Baptist Church, Pulaski, Va.

Herbert V. Hollinger, pastor of Foothills Baptist Church of Issaquah, Wash., and former newspaper man, has been named director of communications for the Northwest Baptist Convention. His primary responsibility will be to edit the Northwest Baptist Witness. Hollinger, 39, was raised a Mormon, converted in Wichita Falls, Texas, served in the Air Force, managed a newspaper, and graduated from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary where he was director of news and information services and has led several churches as pastor.



## Natchez Will Focus On Lay Renewal

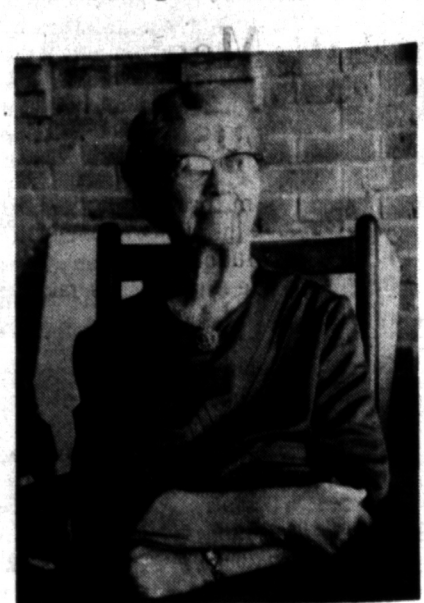
First Church of Natchez realized a 17-year dream by moving into new facilities on March 11. Several months ago Odean Puckett, pastor, and the church staff decided to sponsor a lay renewal effort, knowing "that the church's spiritual condition will determine the successful use of its new facilities." Lay Renewal Weekend was set for April 6, 7, 8.

The State Brotherhood Department was consulted and committees selected. Several weeks ago a special committee began to undergird all planning with prayer.

A special group is preparing to direct the congregation in an evangelistic and follow-up campaign.

The campaign will be a "lifestyle journey of ministry and evangelism." The focus will be on outreach.

Lawrence Hoover, a Baptist layman from Alexandria, Va., has provided in his estate for the permanent endowment of a named professorship at Southern Seminary as part of the seminary's \$10 million "Resources for Excellence" campaign. This action guarantees the completion of the endowment for the Lawrence and Charlotte Hoover Chair of Pastoral Care, which Hoover has already partially funded with major cash gifts. The new chair brings the total raised in the campaign to \$5 million, and is the second named professorship established in recent months by laymen from Virginia. Earlier, Victor A. Lester of Martinsville, Va., endowed a chair of Christian preaching to be named for Lester and his wife, Louise. A named professorship requires a minimum of \$500,000 in permanent endowment funds, with the annual income providing for a major teaching post at the seminary. Southern Seminary now has a dozen such named professorships, and is seeking another 10.

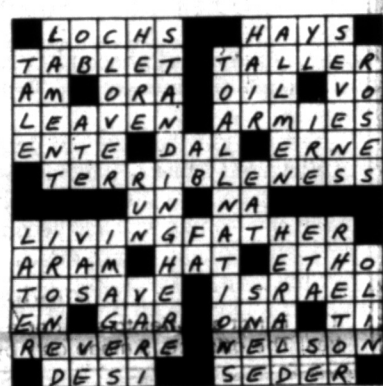


Mrs. S. W. (Maggie) Rainey has been an active member of Fairfield Church, Moselle, since 1913. Mrs. Rainey, age 92, lives now in the Bay Street Convalescent Home at Hattiesburg. She has been a wheelchair patient for three years.

Mrs. Gertrude Harless of the Fairfield Church writes that Mrs. Rainey is a devoted Christian, who loves the Lord and is "so sweet and kind that everyone can't help loving her." She adds, "When you visit her you receive a blessing. She enjoys visitors, and is always smiling and happy, spreading sunshine and love."

"All the members and pastors of this church have received a blessing from knowing and working with Mrs. Maggie all these years. The ladies of the Fairfield WMU miss her and love her very much, and pray that God will bless her and keep her happy. If we could all be as good as our Mrs. Maggie this world would be a wonderful place to live."

### BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS



"A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord" (Prov. 13:2).



## Mississippi Club

The 1978 — 79 Mississippi Club at Southwestern Seminary includes 93 students with Mississippi ties. Officers for the club are David Raddin (row three, far left), president; Clint Purvis (row three, far right), vice president; and Shellyn Gresham (row one, far left), secretary. Faculty advisors are Tom Nettles (row two, far left), assistant professor of church history; Frank D. Stovall (row two, far right), professor of voice; and Albert L. Travis (row five, far left), associate professor of organ.

## Fuller Is Interim Florida Executive

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP) — J. Woodrow Fuller, director of missions for the Florida Baptist Convention since 1969, will be interim executive secretary of the convention until a successor is named to Harold C. Bennett, newly elected executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

Fuller, 64, has announced he will retire about Dec. 15, 1979.

Alton Butler, pastor of the Myrtle Grove Baptist Church, Pensacola, and chairman of the state convention's board of missions, named the search committee for Bennett's successor to include:

James L. Monroe, Fort Walton pastor; committee chairman; Robert L. Smith, Pompano Beach pastor; Emit O. Ray, Miami pastor; Andrew M. Hall, Delray Beach pastor; William H. Carter, Jacksonville pastor; Frank W. Hudnall, Marianna layman; Horace A. Andrews, St. Petersburg layman. Ex officio members are Butler and N. B. Langford, Panama City pastor and president of the state convention.

The state executive board accepted Bennett's resignation, effective April 30, following vacation time. They presented him with a new car in appreciation of his 11 years as executive secretary.

## Cast Of 200 Will Present Easter Music At Morrison Heights, Clinton

The music ministry of Morrison Heights Church will present a dramatized version of "The Seven Last Words of Christ," by Theodore Dubois on April 8 at 7 p.m. at the church. The presentation will include drama with a cast of 15, choral music with a choir of 83, and orchestral accompaniment of 32 players. There will be over 200 people involved.

"The Seven Last Words of Christ" revolves around the words spoken by Jesus from the cross. The choir plays the role of narrator, an angry mob, and devoted followers. The choir, along with several committees, has been in

preparation for this program since the middle of December.

The program incorporates the use of a scrim 50 feet wide and 30 feet tall. The drama behind the scrim is still action with Centurions, John, the Beloved Disciple, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, Jesus, two thieves and a narrator who plays the part of a prophet. The choir is costumed in typical costumes of the first century.

The program is under direction of Bill Barnes, minister of music at Morrison Heights. He and the pastor, Kermit McGregor, invite the public to attend.

## Woodland Hills

### Will Present

### Handel's "Messiah"

The Easter portion of Handel's Messiah will be presented by the Sanctuary Choir, soloists and orchestra at Woodland Hills Church, 3327 Old Canton Road, Jackson, on Easter Sunday, April 15, at 5 p.m. conducted by James Glass, minister of music at Woodland Hills.

The soloists include Myrna Hedgepeth, soprano, Ron Sennett, tenor, and Thomas Michael Holt, bass. Among the choruses and solos to be sung are such favorites as "Lift Up Your Heads," "Surely He Hath Borne Our Griefs," "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," "Hallelujah," and "The Trumpet Shall Sound."

Admission to this presentation is free, and a nursery will be provided for pre-school children. The performance will conclude by 6 p.m. so that those who attend other churches will be able to attend evening services.

## Jackson Man Selected For Preaching Week

Lee Johnson of Jackson was selected to present the chapel message March 31 during the 15th annual Senior Preaching Week at Southwestern Seminary.

The tradition of Senior Preaching Week began in 1965 and is a time when chapel services are under the direction of students.

Students selected are members of the graduating class and represent the seminary's three schools, theology, religious education and church music.

All participants are selected by special committees.

Johnson is a master of divinity student at Southwestern. He received a BA from Baylor.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Britton Johnson of 1529 Peachtree Street, Jackson.

Iona Island — From Iona, St. Columba is said to have begun the conversion of Scotland to Christianity in the year 563.

Now the island is being offered for sale by its owner, the Duke of Argyll, in order to pay taxes. About 60 people live on slightly over ten square kilometers, working at fishing, farming, and tourism — EBPS

## THE VILLAGE VIEW



FROM  
Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 11308

Jackson, MS 39213

### Dear Village Friends:

Many of you, in individual capacities, are now responding helpfully to our popular, annual appeal, "Dress A Child At Easter," and we are so grateful. May I respectfully remind you that the Lord's Day which we observe as Easter now quickly approaches. For many years, you and I have chosen this season as an appropriate time to assist The Village in the necessary but very expensive task of dressing our children, especially church clothing for the spring and summer, but hopefully, decent clothing for the entire year. At this writing, response to the appeal, although appreciated, is frighteningly short of our minimum needs. If, as an individual, you have not yet sent us your gift, which is so personal to the boys and girls, won't you give it your attention today?

Respectfully,

*Paul N. Nunnery*

PAUL N. NUNNERY  
Executive Director

### The Children Are Saying:

During the recent Spring Holiday from the public schools, our staff arranged a trip on a real train for a large group of our younger boys and girls. In recounting his adventures during the thrilling ride, a 5-year old remarked to one of his friends on our staff, "Another train came so close to us until I jumped from my seat to the top of that train and back to my seat again!"

Noticing the look of disbelief on the face of his staff friend, the youngster grinned and added, "Well—I did it lots of times in my mind."

In commenting about a recent airplane ride, his first flight experience, a young Village boy living in one of our foster homes observed, "I could easily fly going straight, but I just didn't know when to turn off!"

During the course of a recent campus Bible study group of teenage boys on one of our campuses, the young people were requested to list the names of at least 6 individuals whom they knew to be Christians. After a long period of anxious thought, one teenage boy informed the leader, "I'm gonna put half of \_\_\_\_\_'s (name omitted) name down, because I believe he's only about half-Christian." — "From the mouths of Babies."

In a group therapy discussion regarding freedom, one Village girl of high school age observed that in order to be free, one must be free inside. Whereupon, a teen-aged boy, relatively new to Village care responded, "Inside me there is a cage—but I believe it's beginning to open a little bit."



Girls' basketball — a important feature of Village life.

### What's Happening:

"PRAISE IS," a Musical for Young Voices, by Richard Hamilton and Bill Ingram, was presented by the combined Junior Choirs from The Village's Department of Music in Powell Chapel on the Jackson Campus on Tuesday evening, March 27, and again on Monday evening, April 2, at Mississippi College in Clinton for the Baptist Student Union. Under the direction of Ruth Glaze and accompanied by Sharon Stone, Village staff members assigned to our ministry of therapeutic music, 54 Junior-age Village boys and girls charmed and inspired their audiences through this delightful choral interpretation of Christian worship as Praise to God.

During the recent spring holiday from the public schools, all of the boys and girls on our Farrow Manor Campus were busily involved in workshops and discussion groups scheduled and arranged for them by Mrs. Rebecca Rhodes, a social caseworker on The Village staff, assigned to the Farrow Manor Campus. Under the direction of Mrs. Rhodes, leadership during the week was provided by Patsy Blair, a nurse practitioner in the Tate County Department of Health who taught a class on Hygiene and another class on Christian Sex Education; by Dennis Moore, a Youth Court Counsellor with Desoto County Youth Court, who directed a Drug Abuse Workshop; by Mrs. Rhodes who directed discussions on a film presentation of beverage alcohol; and by Debbie Mullins, a Home Economist from Senatobia, who directed a workshop in crafts. On the concluding Saturday of the week, all Village young people on the Farrow Manor Campus, participated in a fishing rodeo, hosted by visiting R.A.'s from Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Independence. The rodeo was conducted at the fishing pond which is located on our Farrow Manor Campus.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 2, 3 and 4, a workshop training session for Village houseparents and social caseworkers from all Village facilities was conducted in Hester Activities Building on the Jackson Campus. Arranged and chaired by Mr. Henry M. Glaze, Jr., Home Life Director on our Jackson Campus, the workshop was led and conducted by Mr. Clarence Powell, a member of the administrative staff of Louisiana Baptist Children's Homes, with offices in Monroe, Louisiana. Mr. Powell, a gifted speaker and teacher, has a national reputation for leadership in this field, and he is in great demand as a

counsellor, leader, teacher and director at child care workshops. The emphasis during this series of staff training sessions was upon staff relationships and the signal effect which staff relationships in group living have upon the children under care. Village houseparents and social caseworkers met in continuous day-long sessions under the leadership of Mr. Powell, who also addressed the staff and children at evening meetings with a spiritual emphasis, conducted in Powell Chapel on the Jackson Campus. Workshops and training sessions for Village staff members who are in daily and intimate contact with the children under care constitute a regular part of our program of in-service training.

On April 26, 1979, beginning at 9:30 o'clock A.M., Ethel McAdoo of Nashville, Tennessee, a recognized authority on the subject of children and spiritual conversion, assisted by Evelyn George, preschool children's consultant with the Church Training Department of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and Barbara Massey, Director of Children's Education and Ministries on the staff of First Baptist Church of Jackson will conduct a workshop and training session for Village staff members. Recognizing the critical importance of awareness, attitude and skill in dealing with Village children who make decisions for Christ as well as those who should make such decisions, Mrs. Annette Hitt, Director of Christian Education on The Village staff has arranged this significant series of training sessions for Village staff members with the cooperation of Misses George and Massey. Other interested church staff

### Presenting Our Staff



Mrs. Macel Brown, left, has been Housemother, Gaddis Cottage, Jackson Campus, since June 13, 1977. Mrs. Winnie Partin, right, has been Housemother, Cooper Cottage, Jackson Campus, since July 18, 1976.



A spirited Soccer Game on the Jackson Campus.

members from First Baptist Church, Parkway Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church, all of Jackson, and all serving as host churches for The Village's Jackson Campus children, are invited guests of The Village for this workshop.

Mrs. Claire Nowlin, ACSW, Director of the Department of Social Service on The Village staff participated, as a panel leader, in the Southern Regional Conference of Child Welfare League of America, meeting in Biloxi in late March. The theme of that section of the Conference during which Mrs. Nowlin provided leadership was "Techniques of the Institutional Social Worker."

Along with Mrs. Ramona Beardain a member of First Baptist Church in Batesville who serves as Director of Social Service at South Polana Community Hospital in Batesville, and other leading directors of Social Work Departments, Mrs. Nowlin assisted in focusing the attention of the conference on areas of crisis intervention, group management, team skills, resources and counselling on a long-term basis. Mrs. Nowlin who received her graduate degree in Social Case Work at LSU, has served as Director of Social Casework at The Baptist Children's Village since December 1, 1971, and is recognized as a leader in one of the more critical areas of Christian child care.

### About Money — In 1979 —

In Mississippi, CHRISTIAN HOME WEEK and MOTHER'S DAY represent mission emphases reserved and committed to The Baptist Children's Village and its boys and girls — On the Jackson Campus, on the Farrow Manor Campus, in the New Albany Satellite Home, in Village foster homes, and through every facet of our services to children and their families.

In 1979, the total budget — FOR ALL PURPOSES AND FOR ALL CAMPUSES — at The Baptist Children's Village is in excess of \$975,000.00. However, we can still report that per capita cost of child care at Mississippi's Children's Village remains among the lowest in the Southern Baptist Convention.

#### The Village Dollar<sup>1</sup> How We Get It

Cooperative Program	20%
Designated Gifts:	
Mother's Day	20%
Holiday Fund	16%
Dress A Child At Easter	8%
Back To School and Memorials	10%
General Gifts	15%
Investment Income	4%
Parental Support	7%
	69%

1. Figures based upon our fiscal year ending 6/30/78.

#### The Village Dollar How We Spend It

Children's Food; Clothing & Home Needs	36%
Education	10%
Utilities & Maintenance	25%
Administration	14%
Social Service, Medical & Dental	10%
Capital Outlays	2%
Contingencies	1%
Promotion & Development	2%

1. Figures based upon our fiscal year ending 6/30/78.  
2. Not including debt service — Purchase of Farrow Manor Campus.



# IRS Revises School Ruling

## House Panel Sets Hearings

By Carol Franklin

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Internal Revenue Service, in response to protests from the educational and religious community, has issued a revised revenue procedure to limit tax exemption of schools considered racially discriminatory.

The original, proposed by IRS and issued August 22, 1978, aroused a storm of protest. That proposed procedure would have required all private elementary and secondary schools to prove that they operate on a racially nondiscriminatory basis or risk losing their tax exemption.

Public comments on the new procedure must be submitted to the IRS by April 20, 1979. Congressional hearings on the procedure were scheduled in the House Committee on Ways and Means, Feb. 20-21. Among those groups scheduled to testify is the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The new procedure "gives greater weight to each school's particular circumstances in determining whether a school is racially discriminatory," according to an IRS statement.

The new guidelines would affect schools held by a court or government agency to be racially discriminatory and those schools, formed or expanded about the time of public school desegregation in their communities, which do not yet have significant minority student enrollment.

The revised procedure retains the provision that "significant minority enrollment" is 20 percent or more of the percentage of the minority school age population in the community served by the school. This measure was called a "quota system" by some witnesses at hearings held by the IRS last December and therefore unconstitutional in light of recent Supreme Court decisions.

The IRS statement listed facts which would be taken into account in judging whether a school would be considered discriminatory. According to the revised proposed procedure, a school's formation or expansion would not be considered related to public school desegregation if the new students are not "to any significant extent drawn from the public school grades subject to desegregation."

Other factors include increased school age population in the community, merger with another private school, adding grade levels or some minority students, faculty, or board members when the growth occurred.

The IRS statement also noted that growth which took place "in accordance with the plan of the school"

dance with a long-standing practice of a religion or religious denomination, which itself is not racially discriminatory, to provide schools for religious education" would tend to indicate that such expansion was not related to public school desegregation.

Facts which would tend to suggest to the IRS that a school discriminates racially would include the use of former public school facilities made available when desegregation took place, opposition by the school or its officers to desegregation of the public schools, or limiting of enrollment in the school to a

geographic area with few or no minorities when such an area is subject to a desegregation plan.

The revised IRS procedure provides that schools which might be questionable in racial policy may retain tax exempt status if they show they have attempted to recruit minority students and professional staff, offer financial assistance on an equal basis to minority students, or clearly indicate to persons in the minority community that they are welcome at the school.

(Carol Franklin is on the Baptist Joint Committee Staff.)

## Cherry Chang Finds No Church Work In China

By Anita Bowden

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (BP) — Her first return home to mainland China in 30 years convinced Cherry (Mrs. Y. K.) Chang there is an urgent need to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is no active, public churchwork in China, according to Mrs. Chang, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board member and home missionary in California. "Many people practiced Buddhism before the Communists came. Now there is no public Buddhist worship," she said.

Mrs. Chang, who was born and raised in mainland China, had not visited her homeland since late in the 1940s. She and her husband were students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, when the Communists took over. Although she had tried before to visit China, this was the first time she was granted permission for a visa. She was able to spend a week with her 88-year-old mother and to see other friends and relatives.

"Every citizen has freedom to believe on his own, but he's not allowed to tell about his faith," she said. She knows of only two churches in China, one in Peking and one in Nanking. Both open only to visitors.

A distant relative, who was a department head at a prominent university and pastor of a local Baptist church before the Communist takeover in the early 1950s, told her religion courses are being taught in the universities, but it is the philosophy of religion— theology without conviction. He is now teaching at a university.

Mrs. Chang carried several Bibles and devotional books with her, and shared her testimony with men who

were pastors before the Communists came. These friends carry on their worship quietly, she said. Children are taught the Bible but are cautioned not to speak of their lessons.

She said she was cautioned not to visit several Christian friends who, although released from prison and living at home, were not really free.

Even though personal relationships tie her to mainland China, Mrs. Chang is not pleased by President Jimmy Carter's decision to break official diplomatic ties with Taiwan and establish them with China.

"It's contradictory," she said. "When I became a naturalized American citizen, I had to swear I was not a Communist or a member of the Communist party."

She is also concerned about the United States officially accepting and becoming allies with people who do not believe in God. "In the future we will be dominated by godless influences," she said. She is fearful for Taiwan's safety and even for the safety of the United States.

Mrs. Chang said it is not likely that missionaries will be allowed to enter China. "While I was there a friend told me he had read in a publication that China would welcome all overseas Chinese and others, except missionaries," she said. "But I told my Christian friends that Christians are praying for them and that no matter what happens, we are all one in the body of Christ."

Mrs. Chang exhorted the members of her own Southern Baptist denomination to "get busy." "We must preach the gospel to as many as possible before doors are closed," she said.

## Court Says Methodists Can Be Sued

SAN DIEGO (RNS) — In a unanimous opinion, a three-judge state appeal court has ruled that the United Methodist Church can be sued.

The 23-page ruling, which involved one of the Pacific Homes bankruptcy cases now before several courts, stated that "a religious organization should not be relieved of its lawful obligations arising out of secular activities because the satisfaction of those obligations may, in some tangential fashion, discourage religious activities."

Pacific Homes, a network of 14 retirement-care facilities, had been related to the denomination's Pacific and Southwest Conference until they went bankrupt and were placed under the control of a court-appointed trustee in 1977.

The appeals court ruling stated that the denomination, "in fulfilling its commitment to society, has elected to involve itself in worldly activities by participating in many socially valuable projects. It has enjoyed the benefits, both economic and spiritual, of those projects. It has even on occasion filed suit for the protection of its interests. It must now, as part of its involvement in society, be amenable to suit."

God is not a cosmic bellboy for whom we can press a button to get things. — Harry Emerson Fosdick

## Former New York dancer brings New Life To Church In Puerto Rico

By Linda Lawson

SAN JOSE, Puerto Rico (BP) — A former New York night club dancer is now walking the streets of a small town in her native Puerto Rico, sharing her faith in Christ and giving life to a church that was virtually dead.

Nellie Rodriguez came home to Ponce, Puerto Rico, three years ago to care for her father, ill with cancer.

While home, she became a Christian. Soon a missionary told her the Lord had something for her to do and a visiting evangelist said she had the gift of sharing Christ with others. But Nellie was not so sure.

However, when a woman from nearby Piedra Agusada visited Nellie's church to ask for help in reaching her community, Nellie responded.

A small church building was already there, although the attendance in recent

## Devotional CRUCIFIXION

Mark 15:20-38

By William B. Webb  
Pastor, Midway, Meridian

The Roman citizen never had to fear the crucifixion. That horrible death was reserved for slaves. Isaiah told of the Suffering Servant. Jesus was the fulfillment of that prophecy. He was King, yet he was a servant, and as a servant he died that death to make it possible for every man to miss the agony of spiritual death in hell, separated from God.

I. Along The Way To The Cross. Simon was impressed into service. Simon probably planned to carry the cross for the weary, bleeding Jesus to the prepared site, throw it down and get away as quickly as possible. Apparently he did not throw the cross down and hurry away. Sometime, maybe then, he realized all of this was for every man, even for him. At this "skull place" (Golgotha) Jesus shunned the drink prepared by the women's guild. He refused this cup because he proposed to drink the other cup to the last bitter dregs.

II. On The Cross. "They crucified him." Note the stark simplicity of the statement. The shame of exposure and the physical pain could never compare with the spiritual sufferings of Jesus when "he became sin for us." Because Jesus was on the cross we understand that sin is that bad and God's love is that great. On the cross he died between two robbers. One reviled him and one repented and believed in him.

III. Around The Cross. There were three groups I call the gamblers, the gamblers, and the gang of religious leaders. They divided his garments, they gazed on him and they taunted him to save himself as he saved others. He could not do that and be true to his mission. They said they would believe if he would come down. We believe because he did not come down. He went that far for us.

IV. From The Cross. Jesus felt forsaken. He knows what it means to be separated from God. He understands your alienation. I believe he took the vinegar so he could clearly shout the victor's "It is finished!" He had finished the work of redemption he came to perform. He breathed out his breath. He was dead.

Conclusion: The heavy 60 x 30 veil that separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy place was torn from top to bottom. Had man done it, it would have been torn from bottom to top. This was God's work. The barrier between God and man was removed. Jesus, the High Priest, opened the way for every man to have direct access to God. Trust the Christ of the cross for salvation.

cent years had never exceeded three adults and a half dozen children.

At first Nellie continued her work in a clothing store and went to Piedra Agusada each Saturday to visit and prepare the church for Sunday. Then when a place became available for her to live in Piedra Agusada, she left her job and began spending each day visiting and witnessing in homes and on the streets.

So far, 19 people have become Christians through the ministry of Nellie Rodriguez.

"I know the gift the Lord has given me is to be a missionary," she said one afternoon recently as she sat in the living room of a woman who had become a Christian through Nellie's efforts.

"I really care for the people. I laugh with them and cry with them. I know God wants me here," she said.

In addition to her ministry in homes, Nellie has organized almost nightly activities at the church. Besides Sunday services where as many as 80 people have crowded into the small building and yard, a prayer group meets on Monday nights.

On Tuesdays, a pastor from Ponce comes to lead Bible study. A preaching service is held each Thursday night and on Saturdays Nellie teaches a class on how to lead a Christian life.

For the future Nellie hopes the church will have a fulltime pastor. For now, living and working among the people of Piedra Agusada is enough. She expresses no regrets for the loss of attention and money that went with her dancing career. "The things I had never gave me what I have now," she said.

## Uniform Lesson Celebrate And Proclaim

By Larry Kennedy  
First, Laurel  
1 Cor. 11:20-34

The old monk announced that he was going to preach on the love of God. On Sunday the cathedral was filled to capacity in anticipation of the monk's sermon. For a long time the monk stood silently before the congregation waiting for complete silence. When the congregation stood motionless, the monk lifted a candle from the candelabra and walked to a statue showing Christ hanging on the cross. He held the candle beside the pierced hands, the pierced feet, the wounded side, and the crown of thorns. In that holy moment the great assemblage had "heard" with their hearts the love of God.

When God's people come together to observe the Lord's Supper, it is a time to "hear" again of the love of God. Few words are spoken, but the majesty of the moment is not lost. For those who love Christ, the Lord's Supper is a blessed time.

### A Time of Remembrance

The Lord's Supper is a time of remembrance. Paul reminds us that on the night before Jesus died he took bread and broke it, saying, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:24). Jesus also took a cup and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:25). As we receive the Lord's Supper we remember God's atonement for our sins. The bread and the cup are symbols reminding us that Jesus died on the cross that we might experience the forgiveness of sin.

Every year on Good Friday, the role of Christ bearing his cross is reenacted in the village of Sartene, Corsica. This has been going on since the Middle Ages. The individual carrying the massive cross wears a red hood and has a thirty-pound chain attached to his leg. His steps are clearly marked by the blood that oozes from his bare feet and hands. No one knows the person carrying the cross. Applicants for the job are booked solid for the next forty years. It is known that the person carrying the cross is attempting to atone for past sins.

When we gather to participate in the Lord's Supper we acknowledge that

we can do nothing to atone for our sins. We gratefully accept his death as the answer to our sin problem.

In the Lord's Supper we remember God's attitude toward us — an attitude of love. To prove his loyalty to the thieves, a young man was told to murder his mother, tear out her heart, and to bring it back to the thieves. As the young man returned from his evil mission, he stumbled and fell. At that moment a voice from his mother's heart, asked, "Are you hurt, my son?" In those silent moments at the Lord's Supper, God reminds us that in the midst of all our sins he still loves us.

### A Time of Reflection

The Lord's Supper is a time of reflection. Paul said, "But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup" (1 Cor. 11:28). The word translated "examine" (dokimazete) means to "put to the test." The word was often used to describe the testing of metal to see if it were genuine.

At God's table the believer is to reflect on his own life to make sure that he is in a right relationship with God and others before partaking of the Lord's Supper. It appears that there was division and unrest in the Corinthian church. Paul contended that until the church was put in proper order, it would be using the Lord's Supper in "an unworthy manner." To live in sin and participate in the Lord's Supper is to make a mockery of Christ's death (1 Cor. 11:27).

During my college days I knew a Christian lady who refused to participate in the Lord's Supper because she felt unworthy. In one sense no one is really worthy to receive communion; however, the Lord's Supper is for folks who know that they are sinners and have been saved by God's grace. It is the place where the unworthy reflect on the goodness of God.

### A Time of Rejoicing

The Lord's Supper is a time of rejoicing because we know that our sins have been forgiven because of the death of Christ. In the midst of the communion service many years ago a pastor noticed that a dear lady allowed the cup to pass untasted. She dropped her head and began to weep. Knowing of her past, the pastor immediately realized the sense of guilt she must have been feeling. Moving to her side, he took the cup and pressed it gently

into her hand. In a whisper, he said, "Take it my child; it's for sinners; it's for sinners."

The Lord's Supper is a time of rejoicing because we are proclaiming the gospel. Paul said, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death..." (1 Cor. 11:26). Every time God's people fellowship at the Lord's table, they preach the gospel. Many times children asked serious questions about Christ after witnessing the observance of the Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a time of rejoicing because we are reminded that Christ will return and reign victoriously. The apostle said, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Cor. 11:26).

After the first day of battle at Shiloh, the Union army was severely shattered. At midnight, during a heavy rain General Sherman found General Grant under a tree trying to keep dry. Sherman felt that the Union army would retreat, and he remarked to Grant about the terrible conditions of the troops. Nodding his head, Grant bit down on his cigar and said, "Yes. Beat 'em in the morning, though." True to his word, Grant made a counterattack on the second day, and the Confederate army was forced to retreat.

Although we may be facing difficult days, the Lord's Supper reminds us that our Lord is coming back. He will win the final day.

### Staff Changes

Southside Church, Lucedale has called Jack Anderson of Mobile, Ala. as minister of music and director of youth. He is a student at Mobile College where he will receive the B.A. degree April 29. He formerly was minister of music and youth at several churches in central Alabama. John Edwards is pastor at Southside.

Woolmarket has Tom Jacobs as Music and Youth Director. The youth had a lock-in at First, Biloxi, with eight decisions for Christ as a result.

Gulfport Heights has called Ben Cooper from Stateline as pastor.

Grace Memorial, Gulfport's new pastor Jimmy Porter, his wife Tommie, and daughter Nikki, are now on the church field.

## Life and Work Lesson

## When Church Members Disagree

By Joe N. McKeever  
First, Columbus  
Romans 14:1-15:13

The husband and wife plopped down in the marriage counselor's office. He spoke first.

"Doc," he said, "My wife and I have not agreed on one thing in 35 years."

"Thirty-six!" she answered. As Baptists, we make little jokes about always reserving the right to disagree. Some wit has noticed that wherever you have two Baptists, you generally have three opinions.

Some congregations are like teenagers — loud and impulsive, quick to love and quick to get hurt. Others resemble middle age — settled, responsible, and cautious. The difference is two things: the type of leadership and the spiritual maturity of the membership.

Our Bible study focuses on preventing church disagreements by growing in our love and understanding. What Do I Owe The Weak?

The strong owes to the weak two things: to accept them (14:1-8) and to help them (15:1-4).

Accepting the weak means, first, to understand them. You may be coming from different places. This requires that you get to know other Christians if you are to understand them.

Secondly, accepting the weak means not judging them. The charge brought against Jesus in Luke 15:2 was that instead of judging sinners, he and he held. He was accepting them and even eating with them! So must we.

Thirdly, accepting the weak obligates us to keep the right priorities. The most vital element in another's actions is whether he acts for the Lord Jesus, or for lesser motives. Therefore, if he means it as an expression of love to Christ, be careful about putting him down.

Here are two ways to help the weak (15:1-4). First, bear with his failings. Babies are noisy and they cry a lot, but they certainly bring a lot of joy into a household. So, Paul says, don't think only of your own convenience.

Secondly, concentrate on strengthening the weak. Repeatedly Christ pointed out that we were to have servant spirits. Such a spirit works to make other people successful. Paul illustrates with Christ who even re-

ceived our insults on himself, so intent was He on helping us. Are You Really One Of The Strong?

This seems to be the thrust of Romans 14:9-23. We can make a checklist from this section to determine if we are indeed a troublemaker.

(1) Do you judge or accept others? (14:9-12). We do not have to be the father and disciplinarian to other Christians, but can relax and just be their brother or sister.

(2) Do you hinder or help others? (14:13-15). Are those stumblingblocks you are laying for others, or are you acting in love?

(3) Are you a rule-centered or a joyful Christian? (14:16-18) How easily we want to reduce the Christian life to a list of habits to be avoided. But it won't work. The light in Christ is righteousness, peace and joy in the Spirit.

These are inner possessions which will work their way outward when present. (4) Are you a builder or a wrecker? (14:19-21) Your work should lead others to peace and strengthen them.

(5) Are you willing to keep some of your convictions to yourself? (14:22-23) I like the way the New International Version translates verse 22: "So whatever you believe about these things (eating meat sacrificed to idols), keep between yourself and God."

I know a pastor whose various churches stayed torn up with dissension. If they had no turmoil when he arrived, they soon did. On one occasion he explained to another, "I consider myself God's trouble shooter." Some would have accused him of working for the other side!

### How To Have Church Harmony

Two important points stand out in 15:5-6: the source of unity is "the purpose of unity. Our unity comes from the purpose of the church — all of us following Christ, and the provision of the Lord — endurance and encouragement. Endurance helps the strong to have patience with the weak, while encouragement keeps the weak ones plugging away when the going gets uphill.

Unity's purpose? So the church can glorify God. But notice how we are to glorify Him — with one heart and one mouth. Sunday morning, our church

may sing praises with one mouth, but not with one heart. Both are essential. A Prayer For Christians

The prayer of 15:13 is unto the God of hope. All future is His. It is a prayer for joy and peace — standard equipment for the saved. These two qualities will stop a church fight long before it starts. "In believing" is the condition always on the Spirit's work within us. The purpose is that we may "overflow with hope." God's people are incurably optimistic. Our source? "by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Let us claim that prayer for our church, our denomination, our lives.

### Off The Record

Someone asked McGinty if it were true that he grew up in a tough neighborhood.

"Tough?" he answered. "Why, was so tough in our neighborhood that a cat with a tail was a tourist!"

—Elberton Star

An elderly farmer wrote to a mail order house as follows: "Please send me one of the gasoline engines you show on page 787, and if it's any good, I'll send you a check."

In time he received the following reply: "Please send check. If it's any good, we'll send the engine."

We just heard about a little boy who said to his teacher, "I ain't got no pencil."

She corrected him at once: "It's 'I don't have a pencil.' You don't have a pencil." "We don't have any pencils." "They don't have any pencils." Is that clear?

"No," said the bewildered child. "What happened to all them pencils?"

The teacher asked Harry how old his sister was. "Twenty-five," replied the boy.

"Twenty-five," said the teacher, in a tone of surprise. "She told me she was twenty."

"Oh," explained Harry, "that's 'cause she was five before she learned to count."